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CUC retains FAC rate for November. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 219

www.saipantribune.com | FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2017 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune | 75¢

At least 17 missing since '95

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» DPS chief says police continue investigations into missing persons

Search teams did find the body of missing Joan Taitano on Tuesday at the bottom of a cliff near the radar building in Marpi, six days after she was reported missing. But it seems her case is the exception, not the norm. Since 1995, at least 17 persons have been reported missing in the CNMI, yet those cases remain unresolved.

See MISSING on Page 4

Doubts raised in Monfore death

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» Dr. Espinola will conduct autopsy on the swimmer

» Longtime friend says Monfore never swims without swimming goggles

Some friends of ocean swimmer Monte Monfore have expressed doubts that he died of a swimming accident on Rota.

As this developed, the Office of the Attorney General has approved the Department of Public Safety's recommendation to do an autopsy on the body of 56-year-old Monfore.

Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola will conduct the autopsy at the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue on Saipan this Saturday, sources said.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero said yesterday that DPS Rota is the

See DOUBTS on Page 4

LAYOUT PLAN OK'D BEA CABRERA
The Commonwealth Ports Authority board has approved the U.S. Department of Defense's layout plan for a divert airfield on Tinian in a meeting at the Tinian casino commission office last Tuesday. The meeting was attended by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Tinian officials, other CNMI elected officials, the Tinian public, deputy assistant secretary of Defense Allison Sands, and Rear Adm. Soshana Chatfield of Joint Region Marianas.

9th Circuit affirms Melvin Ada sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Appellate court, however, finds judge erred in awarding company $132,565 in restitution

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the 12.7-year prison sentence the CNMI district court imposed on former Commonwealth Healthcare Center employee Melvin G. Ada for stealing over $1.7 million from CHC.

The Ninth Circuit, however, ruled that district court judge Ramona V. Manglona erred in awarding

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Continuity at PSS 'paramount'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Two lawmakers have expressed shock and bewilderment at what appears to be the Board of Education's abrupt termination of Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero last Tuesday, which remains shrouded in mystery due to the lack of details.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres declined to comment on the matter at this time

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Imants "Ed" Klingbergs passes away. He was 79.
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FOCUS
Some saw him as disagreeable and argumentative, others as quiet and prayerful.
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LIFE & STYLE
Mark Ruffalo's Incredible Hulk remains a fan favorite.
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Local

Kilili scores 100 percent on food policy

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Food Policy Action announced its 2017 Congressional Scorecard yesterday, awarding a perfect 100 percent to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) for his work and advocacy on improving nutrition and making food available to those in need.

"Making sure that people in the Marianas—especially children—have the food they need to grow and to live healthy lives has been at the forefront of my agenda since my first days in office," Sablan said.

"I appreciate this recognition of my work from Food Policy Action but, more important is knowing that, because of these effort, [children] and others in need in the Marianas are being fed."

» Benefits up, 1,036 more people in Marianas receiving food aid

Most recently, Sablan's inclusion of $32.5 million for the Marianas in the 2014 Agricultural Act has allowed the Commonwealth government to add more households to the Nutrition Assistance Program. There were 2,395 households enrolled in May this year.

With new eligibility standards 2,709 households were enrolled in September. This increase of 314 households translates into approximately 1,036 more individuals now receiving food assistance, as a result of the money Sablan worked for.

Benefits have also been increased. For a household of four on Saipan, benefits were raised from $515 per month to $686. On Tinian, the increase was from $568 to $744. On Rota, benefits went from $719 to $897.

Tinian and Rota receive higher benefits because of the higher cost of food there. Sablan advocated for this benefit differential, which went into effect in 2014.

Sablan's work on food aid began in 2009, when he succeeded at getting the Agriculture secretary to increase the Marianas annual Nutrition Assistance Program block grant from $10.7 million annually to $12.1 million. He won an additional $1 million in fiscal year 2012 and the $32.5 million now in use in 2014.

"The ultimate goal is to include the Marianas in the national Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP," said Sablan. "And the next farm bill, which could come in this Congress, is an opportunity to achieve that.

"Certainly, we will want to continue the funding that is allowing more people to get food stamps in the Marianas and is allowing for increased benefits on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

Sablan said he is actively engaged in making the case for continued funding for the Marianas food program with key members of the House Agriculture Committee.

Sablan forged those relationships, when he served on the Agriculture Committee in the 113th Congress. He was able to bring then-chair Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Oklahoma) to the Marianas in 2014. In February of this year, Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-Pennsylvania), who chairs the Subcommittee on Nutrition, which is responsible for SNAP, also traveled to the Marianas along with Sablan. ***(PR)***

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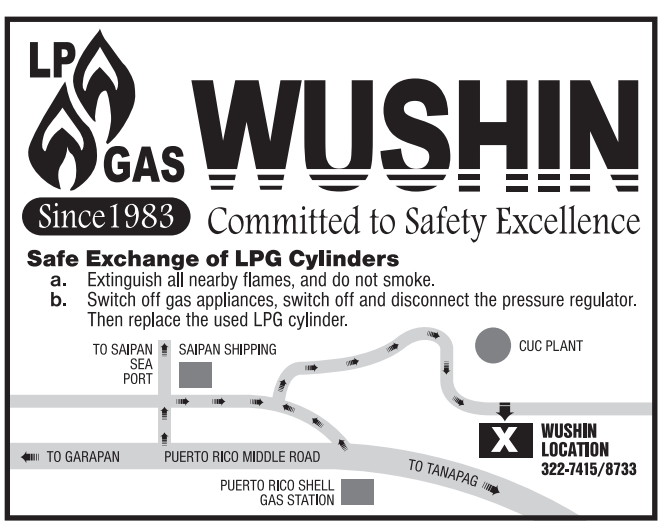
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McDonald's to launch Coffee with a Cop on Nov. 7

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan is hosting the first Coffee with a Cop on Saipan in cooperation with the CNMI Department of Public Safety on Nov. 7, from 7am to 9am at its Middle Road branch.

According to McDonald's marketing manager Anna Olaes, McDonald's has been supporting the project in Guam for many years and they wanted to bring it here to Saipan.

"This is McDonald's' commitment in continuing community programs and we are happy to be the host venue of the Coffee with a Cop on island. The program is not new as this actually started in the U.S. many years ago. In Guam, McDonald's hosts the event every month," she said.

"Here on Saipan, we want to be able to facilitate building good ties and promote zero barriers between law enforcement and people. We believe Coffee with a Cop is a good start," she added.

Another goal of the Coffee with a Cop event is to encourage citizens to talk about issues and concerns they have in their neighborhood with the police.

"It's a fact that talking to a person in authority like the police can be intimidating. It's also a fact that the police are more often than not busy with the work that they do. So we see this event as a vehicle for people to comfortably talk about the situation in their neighborhood and expect the police to be attentive and to listen intently," said Olaes.

"When the event is over, both the police and the citizens would have a clearer understanding of each other's position in the community and that they should always work hand in hand in keeping a peaceful community," she added.

Olaes said that a lot of crimes have been written in the newspapers and seen on TV and these can be issues that people can talk to the police about.

"The atmosphere that we will create is a friendly and trustworthy one so it will be really conducive to a good conversation. We hope other establishments will follow suit to have more events like this possible for the community," she said.

"We would like to invite everyone and assure them that they can come as they are as Coffee with a Cop is an informal thing and interaction is important than anything else," Olaes added.

Drug court sentencing gets reform

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Sentencing guidelines for the CNMI Drug Court is getting a second look after the Senate passed a House bill reforming the guidelines in the CNMI.

House Speaker Raphael Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-12 proposes to revise sanctions against those who manufacture, deliver, or possess controlled substances.

H.B. 20-12 would amend the Commonwealth Controlled Substances Act.

The bill takes a dim view of mandatory minimum penalties, saying they are "frequently unfair or irrational because the judge is unable to consider the pertinent facts and circumstances of the case before imposing a criminal penalty."

It also incorporates evidence-based programs and services, like treatment and supervision.

"[Amendments] are necessary to cure the traces of injustice resulting from strict imposition of mandatory minimum sentencing laws as applied to nonviolent offenders convicted of a drug-related offense," the bill states.

According to H.B. 20-12, the punishment for those proven to be guilty with the intent to manufacture, deliver, or distribute controlled substances would depend on the evidence gathered against him or her.

A major factor would be how much of the controlled substance one possesses. If an individual is caught with controlled substances weighing a total of less than 5 grams, they would be sentenced to a prison term of not more than 10 years, a fine of not more than $5,000, or both. A second offense would bag the offender a prison sentence of not more than 25 years and a fine of not more than $10,000, or both.

The bill specifies that mere possession would also make one an offender.

Possessing controlled substances would land you in prison as well for not more than five years and a fine of not more than $2,000 or both. A section of the bill provides that marijuana is an exemption to this.

The same section of the bill poses stricter consequences for being caught with methamphetamine hydrochloride or "ice," cocaine, or heroin as well as being found guilty of discharging a firearm.

The bill unanimously passed the Senate and now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for enactment.

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PSS

From Page 1

but Rep. Edwin Aldan (R-Tinian) and Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota), who chair the Committee on Education at the House and the Senate respectively, said they were caught flatfooted by the decision.

Aldan expressed concern over the welfare of Public School System students.

"I am kind of surprised with her termination, [but I] respect [the BOE's] decision on this issue due to [it being within their authority]," Aldan told *Saipan Tribune*.

"I just hope that it does not disrupt the daily and ongoing programs within PSS management, staff, and most especially our students," he added.

As of publication, associate commissioner for Yvonne Pangelinan is the acting education commissioner.

Santos believes the BOE should at least justify Deleon Guerrero's termination

"Perhaps the tenure of a [commissioner of education] should be revisited, specifically the provision where he or she could be terminated without cause," she said, adding that if anybody at that level could be terminated anytime, "there should be justifications or with reasonable cause, and not the contrary."

The BOE unanimously voted last Tuesday to terminate Deleon Guerrero "without cause" during a board meeting on Capital Hill. Deleon Guerrero's termination is effective this Nov. 5, 2017.

Santos did decline to comment on the termination itself, but is relieved that both the BOE and the commissioner would ensure continuity of services.

"The BOE and [the commissioner] issued a statement ensuring continuity by providing quality services; protecting the best interest of our students, faculty, staff, and administrators; and putting our students first," said Santos.

According to a social media post of Deleon Guerrero, she submitted a "letter of concern" last Oct. 6, 2017, to the BOE, which she added would be made public. According to a separate email, Deleon Guerrero said the board never responded to her letter of concern prior to sending her the termination letter via email.

Deleon Guerrero is in Hawaii, attending a Head Start conference.

ERRATUM

In the article "Must Try" that was included in the Dining Supplement of the *Saipan Tribune* last Friday, Oct. 27, it indicated that Kinpanchi Restaurant serves coconut crabs and mangrove crabs. This is incorrect. Both species are endangered and commercial consumption is not allowed by the Division of Fish & Wildlife. Kinpanchi Restaurant said they do not serve these crabs. Our apologies for this error.

SENTENCE

From Page 1

$132,565 in restitution to Missouri-based Midwest Medical Supply Co.

The Ninth Circuit vacated the restitution award and remanded it to the district court for recalculation.

Ninth Circuit judges Mary M. Schroeder, Dorothy Wright Nelson, and M. Margaret McKeown issued the ruling on Monday.

Ada pleaded guilty to 56 charges of theft or embezzlement, heath care fraud, and money laundering—all related to misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to MMS totaling over $1.7 million. The checks were supposed to pay for dialysis consumables and equipment that MMS had supplied the hospital.

In December 2015, Manglona slapped Ada with a sentence of 12.7 years in prison.

Ada appealed Manglona's decision and the award of restitution to MMS.

The U.S. government has conceded that the restitution award was excessive.

The 9th Circuit judges said that Manglona did not err in applying the "sophisticated means" enhancement to Ada's theft and fraud convictions.

The judges said that under the U.S. sentencing guidelines, "sophisticated means" involves "especially complex or especially intricate conduct pertaining to the execution or concealment of an offense."

The judges said that Ada opened and used bank accounts with names deceptively similar to MMS to deposit stolen MMS checks, and he manipulated financial records to conceal his fraudulent scheme.

Ada similarly argued that Manglona erred in imposing a two-level sophisticated money laundering enhancement to his money laundering convictions.

Although the sentencing guidelines note that sophisticated laundering typically involves the use of fictitious entities, shell corporations, or offshore financial accounts, this is not required for the enhancement to apply, the judges said.

They said Ada deposited and transferred numerous stolen checks through multiple bank accounts with deceptive names. Thus, the judges said, Manglona did not abuse her discretion.

Ada also asserted that Manglona erred in imposing a two-level leadership enhancement to his money laundering convictions.

The judges said the sentencing guidelines allows this "if the defendant was an organizer, leader, manager, or supervisor in any criminal activity" involving "one or more other participants."

A participant is someone "who is criminally responsible for the commission of the offense" even if acquitted, they said—in this case, Ada's wife, whose participation was proved by a preponderance of evidence. Therefore Manglona did not err in imposing the leadership enhancement, the judges said.

The judges said that Ada's embezzlement caused significant disruption at the hospital, forcing the closure of its peritoneal dialysis clinic for several months. It also endangered public health by forcing patients to undergo more serious treatment, including emergency surgery, after the clinic's closure, the judges said.

Therefore, the judges said, Manglona did not abuse her discretion.

On the award of restitution to MMS, the judges said that MMS presented testimony, email correspondence, and 11 invoices claiming that CHC had not paid it $76,914, but MMS' presentation established only that CUC refused to pay the 11 invoices.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

MISSING

From Page 1

And there could be more. The 17 missing persons are the only ones that could be gleaned from the *Saipan Tribune* archives. Besides Taitano, the last person who was reported missing was Jamal Saleh, a lawyer with the Office of the Public Defender.

Police Commissioner Robert Guerrero said yesterday that the Department of Public Safety continues to look into these cases, based on any information or leads received.

Here is a look at some of the reported missing persons in the CNMI:

■ Assistant public defender Jamal Saleh. The 49-year-old lawyer was last seen walking from his As Teo home on Oct. 3, 2017, at 1:30am, as he could not sleep that night.

■ Lito Aguilar, a Filipino fisherman, was reported missing after he went fishing on a boat on April 19, 2017, but failed to return to Sugar Dock.

■ Mei Hua Zhao, 25, a scuba diving instructor, was reported missing in October 2015. Her friends discovered her 2015 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck parked behind Joker's Bar near McDonald's/Mobil gas station in Garapan.

■ Jian Zhu Deng, 52, manager of Deng Shi Auto Shop in Garapan. He went spearfishing alone at Banzai Cliff in Marpi on Sept. 7, 2015, but never returned home. His Nissan Pathfinder was found by family members parked at Banzai Cliff the following day. A few days later, a search team recovered his spear gun from the lower level of the Banzai cliffline.

■ Saipan Fresh Market owner Zhi Yuan Li was reported missing on Jan. 17, 2015. His Toyota Tacoma pickup truck was found abandoned on a dirt road between Ladder Beach and Obyan Beach. A family member offered $50,000 cash for information on his whereabouts.

■ Japanese sisters Natsuki and Chinatsu Yamada. The two went missing after they went to Wing Beach in Marpi on June 30, 2014. Their rented car was found that same day. A search and rescue team recovered on July 2, 2014, the inflatable raft that was believed used by the sisters. The parents have been regularly visiting Saipan to follow up on the police investigation. They offered a cash reward for information.

■ Sisters Faloma and Malein Luhk. Faloma was 10 years old and Maleina was 9 years old when they disappeared while waiting for a school bus near their house in As Teo on May 25, 2011. An extensive islandwide search was conducted for a month.

■ Hubert Siegfried Friedle, 55. He was last seen on July 23, 2012, in San Antonio. His red Honda Civic car was discovered parked the next day before noon at Pakpak Beach in San Antonio. The car was locked.

■ Qi Run Li, manager of King's Disco in Garapan. He was last seen driving a Toyota Corolla in China Town on June 7, 2010. His car was recovered the following day in a parking lot formerly occupied by Shirley's Coffee Shop along Middle Road in Chalan Laulau. His family offered a $20,000 reward for information.

■ John Garcia Manahane, 24. He was last seen in the early part of October 2005 on Tinian. There was no breakthrough, but there were speculations he was killed and buried on a farm on Tinian.

■ Manuel L. Dela Cruz, 79, was last seen walking in the early morning hours in San Jose, Tinian on Sept. 30, 2000. An islandwide search was done for several weeks.

■ Yuji Watanabe, 65. He was last seen on March 1, 1998. His rented Toyota car was found abandoned at the Bird Island Lookout the following day. The car's ignition key was recovered inside the vehicle. His bag, which contained his eyeglasses, was found on the cliff's edge.

■ Ngai Fung Chang, 27, and his girlfriend, Lai Meung Kou, 28. The honeymooners were reported missing in March 1996. Parents and relatives came to Saipan in March or May 1996 after the two failed to return to Hong Kong on their scheduled arrival. The couple was reportedly last dropped by a taxicab in China Town. The parents offered a $20,000 reward for information.

■ Tian Ming, one of the then-owners of Sea King Restaurant and Joy Motel. He was reported missing on April 30, 1995, in Marpi. Ming's Toyota Camry was recovered at Banzai Cliff. Bloodstains were noted inside the car. DPS at that time did not release much information about the case.

DOUBTS

From Page 1

case agent in this case.

A family friend of the Monfore family in California, William Power, told *Saipan Tribune* that it's their understanding that the swimmer was dressed and ready to board his plane to leave for Japan that same afternoon, Oct. 24, when he was found dead at Pinatang Park in Songsong.

"So I'm sure it wasn't a swimming accident if he had his shoes on," said Power in an email.

He claimed that Monfore had mentioned to some of his friends in California "something" about his stay on Rota.

Another longtime friend of Monfore, Philip Smucker, who said he is a writer and investigative reporter, also wrote and called *Saipan Tribune*, appealing to closely look at the case.

Smucker said he and Monfore's family are all concerned about his death, as "a preponderance of evidence" points to his death not being accidental. He said a lot of details suggest that Monfore didn't just drown in a pool after slipping. Monfore's body was found in a swimming hole on Rota.

Smucker said he has known Monfore for 35 years. The two went to the University of California Berkeley together.

"He was a charitable person and he's very likeable guy," said Smucker.

He pointed out that Monfore never swims without his goggles. "So the idea that he was found…without his swimming goggles is very disturbing."

Second, Monfore had already checked in at the Rota airport. "We don't believe that at that time he would have gone swimming," Smucker said.

Although Monfore may have gone to the Pinatang Park to meet a friend, Smucker believes Monfore could have been followed there.

He said they are very extremely interested in the nature of Monfore's head wound. A physician who lives on Rota earlier said that Monfore had a "significant" open head injury.

Smucker said that Monfore's father is a physician himself and is following closely the autopsy results.

Carl Hames, a high school classmate of Monfore, also expressed doubt in an email about Monfore's death being accidental.

When the incident happened there was a storm passing near Guam and Rota.

Acting DPS spokesman Lt. Jason Tarkong said that Monfore was found floating face down in the swimming hole at Pinatang Park.

Tarkong said that a witness called 911 at 3pm, reporting that a Caucasian male had been found floating in the swimming hole of Pinatang Park.

Tarkong said that medics with the Rota Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services and Rota police responded to Pinatang Park and attempted to revive Monfore with chest compressions.

The victim was then brought to the Rota Health Center, where a doctor pronounced him dead, Tarkong said. No other details were released.

It was Dr. Gregory Kotheimer, a physician at the Commonwealth Health Center, who declared Monfore dead on arrival at the Rota Health Center. Kotheimer was assigned to the Rota Health Center at that time.

Dr. Francois Claassens, a resident of Rota, told *Saipan Tribune* that Monfore had a "very significant" open head injury.

Claassens, however, stated that it is not clear whether Monfore's injury was a result of him hitting his head on a rock while swimming or somebody else hitting him.

At the time, the waters were rough because of the storm.

Monfore made the 7-kilometer Lombok Straight Fight Hunger Swim in Indonesia as part of the May 13, 2007, World Food Program Global Walk the World, an event supporting hungry schoolchildren. From California, he reportedly resided in Bali, then settled alone on Rota six months ago.

CUC retains FAC rate for November

The Fuel Adjustment Charge remains at $0.16886 per kilowatt-hour for November, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. yesterday.

In a statement yesterday, CUC said that there will be no adjustment to the FAC rate for the month of November, despite a slight increase in the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing from October to November, as notified by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc.

The CUC statement said the MOPS increase did not equal to or exceed 4.5 percent of the average per gallon cost of fuel.

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission has authorized CUC to adjust the FAC rate based on the price of oil. Adjustments are made only when the MOPS monthly pricing equals or exceeds 4.5 percent of the average per gallon cost of fuel, which is used in calculating the FAC rate.

The FAC used to be called the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause, or LEAC, and CUC first instituted it in 2009 to recover fuel and fuel related costs—the same system used by power providers in Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to provide customers a more accurate description of the rate.

The FAC is used to purchase fuel and serves as one of the two components that make up a CUC power bill. The second rate component is the electric base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt servicing.

CUC is a non-profit autonomous agency of the CNMI government. ***(CUC)***

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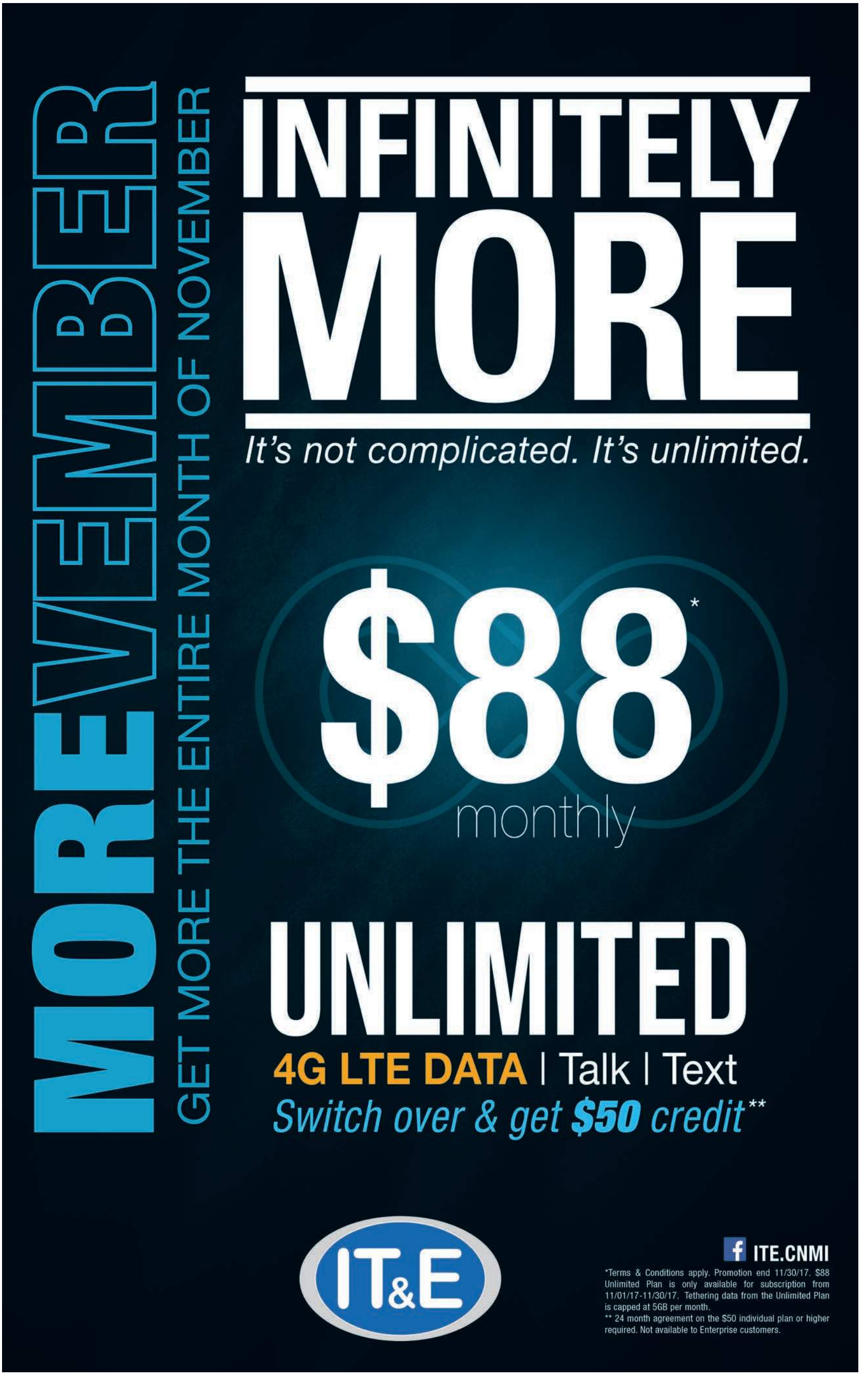
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CNMI employment number soars

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC continues to generate much needed economic activity for the Northern Marianas and provides additional revenues and resources that pay critical government services and obligations.

The investment giant is also credited with diversifying the local employment landscape.

There is already a sense of optimism among residents as a result of a revived economy. In nearly three years on Saipan, the multimillion-dollar investment of IPI has opened up job opportunities to those that are considering careers in the casino-resort industry.

A number of skills development, professional development, training programs and seminars have been made available locally. These are to cater to dozens of new job positions that are now available within the casino-resort flagship investment of the Hong Kong-based company. IPI's presence helped lift the CNMI government's challenge to rebuild the local employment sector.

Since 2014, the number of local/U.S. residents employed by Imperial Pacific continues to grow, as the company remains the largest private employment source for both residents and foreign workers.

There are now about 1,800 employees working for the casino-resort company. These are retirees, new graduates, residents, and foreign workers. The foreign workers are EAD, H-1B, E3, and CW1 holders.

The payroll withholding taxes paid by these workers alone have already yielded the local economy $8 million in additional revenue at the end of the second quarter of this year.

In total, Imperial Pacific has poured in over $700 million in combined investments ($500 million in construction) and taxes and fees (over $200 million). This is by far the single largest revenue/economic source for the local economy since the departure of the garment industry nearly 20 years ago.

As a result of these investments, public services, in particular the CNMI government's pension liability, has also received much-needed reprieve.

In 2013, a U.S. district court approved a settlement agreement with the CNMI government's pension plan, which applied for bankruptcy in 2012. Two years later, when Imperial Pacific decided to invest on Saipan, the $25-million casino licensee fees was tapped to restore the 25-percent reduction in retiree benefits and pensions.

There are over 3,000 NMI retirees that have benefited from Imperial Pacific's contributions.

Meanwhile, Imperial Pacific is aggressively recruiting locally for more workers who are willing to join and be part of an exciting new industry.

Over the past month, recruitment fairs were held on Saipan, Rota, Tinian, Guam, Ponhpei, Majuro, Hawaii, Las Vegas, New York, and Puerto Rico.

In addition, it has partnered with colleges, universities, and trade schools on Saipan and the mainland U.S. for internship programs that Imperial Pacific have made available.

Job hiring announcements are also available at the Imperial Pacific website, www.imperialpaccareer.com, local newspapers, the websites for the CNMI, Hawaii, Guam, and Puerto Rico's Department of Labor, and on the website Monster Jobs. ***(Press Release)***

Municipal council hosts 4th memorial service

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Led by the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, hundreds attended a service yesterday at the American Memorial Park to honor the indigenous Chamorros and Carolinians who perished during World War II.

According to council chair Luis John "L.J." Castro, the ceremony is unique to the relatives of the Chamorros and Carolinians who died during the war. "It was all about gathering everybody together," he said.

The municipal council has been holding the memorial service for four years now.

The ceremony was first started in Guam and was introduced to the Marianas by the 12th municipal council four years ago.

The difference between the ceremonies held in Guam and the one held on Saipan is that the Guam ceremony is held to coincide with that island's Liberation Day festivities; the ceremony on Saipan coincides with All Souls' Day.

According to Castro, they purposely hold the ceremony to coincide with All Souls' Day because of the practice of the indigenous people to honor those who passed before them.

"We are a people that, no matter what, we have to honor the people who come before us," he said.

According to him, over 930 individuals were honored yesterday, not including those whose names were lost in the war.

This year, the program included parts that were never done before like the recitation of the names of each individual who were honored.

Castro said that he is grateful to both the community and the government agencies that supported the tribute like the Governor's Office, Women's Affairs Office, the Indigenous and Carolinian Affairs offices, and the Veterans Affairs Office.

According to Castro, the ceremony was very emotional. "It was beautiful, having all the leaders of every walk of the government, people who survived the war, and people who grew up hearing stories of the wars there," he said.

Castro said the event has only grown bigger since it was first started by the 12th municipal council. "People are becoming more aware…they're catching on," said Castro. "We hope that every year, it grows to be of importance to the community."

TakeCare provides real-time verification

TakeCare has launched an online member verification portal for health professionals at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

"Access to up-to-date eligibility and accurate benefits data greatly improves claims processing and accelerates payments/reimbursements to providers," said Esther Muna, CHC chief executive officer.

Nora Sablan, TakeCare Saipan health plan manager, said: "As the first local health insurance carrier to offer real-time verification, TakeCare is proud to partner with CHC in providing a better patient experience for our members."

Invalid or incorrect patient insurance eligibility information is one of the most common reasons for claims denials, said Arvin Lojo, TakeCare health plan administrator.

"TakeCare offers TCEVA, a Web-based tool, to all our in-network providers, and now CHC, which enables them such to quickly and accurately determine eligibility within seconds, including details about the patient's copayment, co-insurance, deductible and benefit coverage," said Lojo.

TakeCare and CHC will continue to work together to ensuring high quality care is accessible and affordable to TakeCare members.

TakeCare's health plans cover 30,000-plus members' needs with exceptional, member-patient focused services. With over 40 years in the industry, TakeCare continues to uphold the highest standards of excellence for accredited provider networks, patient management expertise, and end-to-end quality control processes. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Anna Alcazar! We wish you good health and more birthdays to come. God bless you always. Greetings come from your World Tour and Travel family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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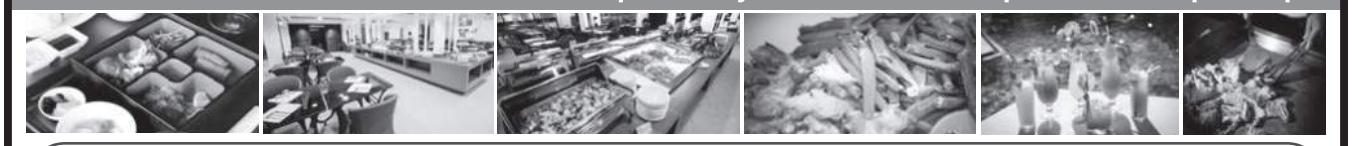

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Breakfast Buffet $17 **Sunday Brunch** *Reg.: $29 (Local: $25)* ***Seafood & Sushi Night*** *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17	Breakfast Buffet $17 ***Seafood & Sushi Night*** *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17 **Buffet Lunch** *Reg.: $20 (Local: $17)* ***Seafood & Sushi Night*** *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17	Breakfast Buffet $17 **Buffet Lunch** *Reg.: $20 (Local: $17)* ***Seafood & Sushi Night*** *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	Breakfast Buffet $17 ***Seafood & Sushi Night*** *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*

RESTAURANT DOLPHIN
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has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and the Signature Gourmet Food - authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki ($38). Enjoy the Spectacular Ocean View and Sunset! from 10th Floor! **Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT! $14 only, 15 servings per day; "First In First Out!"**
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StarLight BBQ
Dinner Buffet Location:
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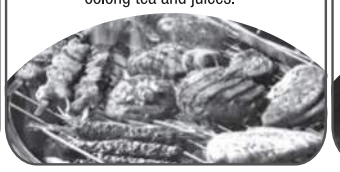

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Imants 'Ed' Klingbergs passes away at 79

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imants Klingbergs, more popularly known in the CNMI community as "Ed," passed away on Oct. 29 on Saipan. He was 79.

Klingbergs' close friend of 53 years, Ivan Propst, said that Klingbergs' contributions to shaping the education system of the Northern Marianas will never be forgotten.

He said that Klingbergs lived a full life and worked hard everyday of it and was happiest when he was hard at work.

According to Propst, his friendship with Klingbergs started back in the late 1960s when they were both deployed in Palau under the U.S. Peace Corps. Propst said it was Klingbergs who recruited him into working for the then-Department of Education back in 1975.

Klingbergs first set foot in the Marianas in 1971, when the islands were still a part of the six district trust territories of the United States, to teach English as a second language. He was hired as the District English Language supervisor and oversaw the instruction of the language on Tinian and Rota where he also trained people to teach English as a secondary language. He did this until 1983.

Klinbergs

He taught at Hopwood Junior High School for three years, and then he moved to the Northern Marianas College.

Klingbergs worked at NMC for about two years and he established the first Community Education Program, which helped individuals get short-term basic training on skills. Today, the program has blossomed and is still offered at NMC.

After his two years at NMC, Klingbergs retired from government service for a couple of years before returning for two years as the dean of Special Programs at NMC and then fully retiring to manage his business.

The Saipan Auto Supply Company was Klingbergs' first business. He also managed an apartment building that he built. After 25 years, that building still stands strong in Susupe.

According to Propst, Klingbergs will always be remembered as a hardworking individual, honest, and a person who committed to excellence. "Dishonesty was simply a concept he was unfamiliar with in terms of his own character," said Propst.

Klingbergs' youngest daughter, Cynthia Guillermo, told *Saipan Tribune* that she would always remember her father as an amazing man who worked hard, was generous, and cared deeply for his loved ones.

"I never knew him to be anything but happy and satisfied with his life and his family, who he was deeply devoted to," Propst said.

His passing came as a shock to the people who loved him most. Klingbergs' loved ones said that even he was energetic.

He is survived by his wife, Marietta, their three children: Neolani Paet, Mila Mattivi, and Cynthia Guillermo, and their three grandchildren: C.J. Paet, Daeson Guillermo, and Kayla Guillermo Klingbergs.

The family will host a celebration of life service at the Saipan Community Church in Susupe tomorrow, Nov. 4, at 10am. The community is invited.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

APASEEM conference at AMP

The Asia Pacific Academy of Science, Education and Environmental Management is holding its annual conference on Nov. 7, 8, and 9 at the American Memorial Park each night, from 5:30pm until 8:30pm. Speakers will be present and there would be topics ranging from fisheries and butterflies to public perceptions of environmental issues and more. The conference is free and open to the public. All are welcome to attend. Time is reserved at the end of each talk to answer question from the audience. ***(PR)***

Citizenship Day observed today

This year, Citizenship Day, which falls on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, will be observed today, Nov. 3, 2017.

Veterans Day, which falls on Nov. 11, 2017, will be observed on Nov. 10, 2017.

Schools and government offices will be closed on both days.

Under the law, if a legal holiday falls on a Saturday, it shall be celebrated on the preceding Friday. ***(PR)***

Revived *Kantan Isla* is rescheduled

The Kantan Isla Music Festival that was originally set for the end of September has been moved to Nov. 17 at the Garapan Fishing Base, from 5pm to 11pm. For additional information, call CCA at 322-9982. There would be a raffle drawing and incentives for participating individuals. Artists will also be given space to sell their CDs and promote their music. Ten vendor slots are also open for non-profit organizations, families, and churches that want to raise funds. The council will be providing tents but a $25 park and recreation fee is required. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Power outage in Garapan on Saturday

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, from 5am to 10am to allow a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to safely replace three wooden power poles with concrete poles along Beach Road in Garapan.

Areas to he affected are Feeder 2 (2na Partial): Beach Road Garapan (Fishing Base to Smiling Cove Marina), Dama Di Noche St., Mapola St., Kadena Di Amor St., McDonald's/Mobil gas station, TSL building, Joeten Hafa Adai shopping center, Bubba Gump Shrimp, Wild Bills, IHOP, Ajisen Ramen, Coconut St., Coffee Tree Mall, Ginger Ave., Coral Tree Ave., Date St., Pasco de Marianas, Palm St., and Plumeria Ave.

No water well will be affected but the S5 sewer lift station will be affected.

The traffic light at the intersection near Bank of Guam will be affected.

For more information, contact the CUC Call Center at 664-4282 or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(PR)***

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Telephone disruption at OAG

The CNMI Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division is experiencing a temporary disruption to phone services. All incoming and outgoing calls are unavailable at this time. IT&E is working to resolve the matter to resume services as soon as possible. For immediate assistance, call 234-8964/788-7940; or Civil Division at 237-7500. ***(PR)***

Las Vegas Night on Nov. 18

The 2017 Rotary Club of Saipan's Las Vegas Night is on Nov. 18, at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall, from 6pm to 12pm. This year the Rotary Club of Saipan will make a donation to the Rotary Club of Las Vegas Nevada to help those in this year's mass shootings. Each ticket is $5 or get five tickets for $20. You can call the Rotary Club of Saipan at 783-6378 for tickets, or visit any of the distribution points at Megabyte, NMPASI, or Paradise Dental. ***(PR)***

Chamber hosts sales training for holidays

The "Customer Service & Suggestive Selling for the Holidays" training seminar will be conducted on Nov. 16, from 9am to 12pm at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room (Marianas Business Plaza, third floor, Suite 315). Registration fee is $50 per person for Saipan Chamber of Commerce members and $55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. To register, call 670-234-7150 or email coordinator@saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

MVA membership meeting on Nov. 9

The Marianas Visitors Authority will hold its semi-annual general membership meeting on Nov. 9, 2017, at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort at 10am. Registration will begin at 9:30am.

Guest speakers will be from the MVA's offshore offices and will provide a recap of fiscal year 2017 projects and the MVA's marketing plans for fiscal year 2018.

Speakers will be the respective in-country managers: Irene Lee, Korea market; Shirley Zhang, China market; and Takashi Ichikura, Japan market.

The meeting cost is $16/person for MVA members and $20/person for non-members. The cost includes light refreshments and lunch. RSVP should be made by Nov. 3, 2017.

The MVA also welcomes new businesses, agencies and individuals who want to actively participate in the Marianas' top industry as MVA members. Membership is $100 annually. To RSVP, to request a membership application, or for more information, contact MVA Community Projects administrative assistant Demalynn Pagarao at dpagarao@mymarianas.com or call 664-3200. ***(MVA)***

JIL Church Saipan to mark 20th anniversary

The CNMI community is invited to attend the Jesus is Lord Church Saipan's 20th anniversary celebration on Nov. 5, 3pm at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. The JIL Church Saipan congregation hosts its members at their sanctuary in San Vicente. There are three services available every Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, and 6pm. For more information, call 670-235-8053 or 670-989-8053. ***(PR)***

VA benefits counselor visiting Saipan

A U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration benefits counselor will be at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic on Dec. 15, 2017, from 9:30am to 3:30pm. The benefits counselor will be available to answer benefits questions, and assist with the claim process. The Saipan VA Outreach Clinic is located at the MH II Bldg. Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. To request an appointment, contact Ruth Coleman at 322-0035. ***(PR)***

CNMI Next Top Chef competition

The CNMI Next Top Chef 2017 invites interested chefs to register for the competition on Nov. 9, 2017, at 6pm at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Tickets are now on sale for $50/person including the live cooking competition, full buffet dinner, and raffle. For a chef entry form or tickets, contact Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation at 235-2340 or emptyvesselministry@gmail.com. Jointly organized with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, the event will benefit the Empty Vessel Ministry. ***(PR)***

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1st Marianas Beer & BBQ fest kicks off tomorrow

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority will host the Inaugural Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival tomorrow, Nov. 4, from 5pm to 11pm, at the Garapan Fishing Base grounds.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion said they are very excited to host the event.

"It's our newest signature event for the Marianas and, as an added treat for the residents and visitors, we have flown Kenny Shih and Frankie Fong from Fourplay Cuisine and Bar in Taiwan, who will be debuting their cocktail themed drinks after each of the main islands in the Marianas—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

"I've heard a lot about Fourplay before I went to Taiwan and so when I finally visited Taipei a few months ago, I had the chance to visit this famous restaurant bar and we are very pleased that they were able to come to the Marianas," he added.

Shih, who is a first-timer to Saipan, is excited about being a part of the festival.

"Our bar has been in business for seven years and what's interesting about it is we don't have a drink menu. So how do we serve drinks to the customer? We make a cocktail drink based on the customer's mood. Whether happy or sad, we have a drink for them."

"So this is the concept that we are bringing to the festival. We have concocted cocktail drinks that will carry the taste of the Marianas and this is the first time we are doing it. It is exclusive for the festival," he added.

Fong is the man behind the four cocktail drinks that will one of the highlights at the festival. "I will make and serve drinks that will show the beauty and excitement that I feel about the Marianas."

Fong said the drink Saipan Ocean Blue was inspired by the crystal blue waters that surrounds the islands and all its water sports activities. It is a mixture of rum, pineapple, and peach.

The Tinian Spicy Red highlights the famous Tinian pepper of Tinian. Fong said it is for people who like spicy drinks.

The Rota Nature Green celebrates the lush greens of Rota. It has lemon grass and peppermint.

Marianas Special is a fusion of oolong tea that is famous in Taiwan and local ingredients found only in the Marianas.

The festival's entrance fee is $25 and comes with one commemorative beer glass, one commemorative silicone wristband, two beer or wine samples, three beer or wine full serving, and one chaser sample. It will cost only $5 to refill the commemorative glass using a yellow ticket. Food coupon is only $6 using an orange ticket and $1 for water and soda coupon using a red ticket.

"We want to bring these types of international events to the Marianas with our first beer and wine festival by also highlighting local brews produced by Saipan Brewing Co. and other craft beers available from other local distributors," Concepcion said.

The emcee for the event is Ben Jones and it will be open to adults age 21 (legal drinking age) and older.

Marianas Beer & BBQ mascot "Sir Besa," event emcee Ben Jones, on podium, MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, Fourplay's Frankie Hong and Kenny Shih, and MVA manager for community projects Martin Duenas. BEA CABRERA

Navy to conduct training in CNMI

Aircraft of the U.S. Navy's Carrier Air Wing 17 will conduct training near Saipan and Tinian on Nov. 5 to 6.

During the exercise, F/A-18 fighter jets will operate within a radius of 20 nautical miles around Saipan, including occasional island overflights.

Following the guidelines of the Federal Aviation Administration, pilots will maintain a minimum altitude of 15,000 feet and operate between 2pm and 11:59pm.

Additionally, MH-60 helicopters will conduct search and rescue training on Tinian's North Field during the same hours of operation. This training will include periodic fueling stops at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

CVW-17 consists of nine squadrons of various types of aircraft and is assigned to the aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt*.

The USS *Theodore Roosevelt* is a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, the largest class of carrier in the world. Named after the 26th President of the United States, the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* is also known as "The Big Stick" and is one of 10 Nimitz-class carriers serving the U.S. Navy. ***(PR)***

This announcement does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy.

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Common Stock Public Offering

BankGuam Holding Company announces the direct sale of up to $20,000,000 of its common stock to the public. The offering price is $12.25 and the minimum stock purchase is $50,000.00.

BankGuam Holding Company will host an investor presentation in Saipan to discuss the offering, as well as the financial results of the Company and its subsidiaries, including Bank of Guam. Below are details of our Saipan presentation:

- Thursday, November 16, 2017, Fiesta Resort and Spa (Azucena Room),Garapan,Saipan from 8:30AM to 10:30AM.

To register for the presentations, please visit https://bghccommonstocksaipan.eventbrite.com.

Offers will be made only by means of a prospectus, copies of which are available on the Bank of Guam website, www.bankofguam.com, under Investor Relations. Copies of the prospectus may also be obtained by contacting BankGuam Holding Company, Attn: Bank of Guam Trust Services, 7th Floor Bank of Guam Building, 111 W. Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatna, Guam, 96910 or by calling 671-472-5743 or by email to trustservices@bankofguam.com. No offers or sales will be made in any state or jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction.

St. Jude Message of Appreciation

On behalf of our entire St. Jude Parish family, I want to thank everyone who helped us prepare for a joyful and memorable fiesta this year. We thank all of our parishioners, friends, ministers, and benefactors who generously shared their time, talents, and treasure towards making our 2017 parish fiesta a success! We are deeply humbled and touched by your kindness. As a people of faith, we continue to hold the entire community in our prayers and we strive to live our parish mission statement:

To proclaim the good news of Christ to all
To build a prayerful community where all are welcome
To become witnesses of God's transforming love
through our care and outreach to others

Thank you and God bless you!

—St. Jude Parish Community and Pali James

Saipan Vegas Resort: The new kid on the block

The Saipan Vegas Resort is located in Chalan Lau Lau on Middle Road.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Vegas Resort, conveniently located in Chalan Lau Lau on Middle Road, is the new kid on the block.

Centrally located on Saipan (just a five-minute drive from Susupe or 10 minutes from Garapan), Saipan Vegas Resort offers a lively mix of gaming experience, affordable accommodations, and a round of golf in their nine-hole course—all in one place.

According to Saipan Vegas Resort consultant Gus Noble, what used to be an eyesore on Saipan has now been converted into a budget integrated resort that combines a gaming experience and a golf course.

"One of the first things we did was we picked up Saipan Country Club, which is the very first golf club on Saipan [that was] built in the late '50s, probably by the military. It's a great little golf course and we got it. We then picked up this building and, renovated it," Noble said.

The concept of the Saipan Vegas hotel is to offer budget accommodations, which is popular around the world. It currently has 53 rooms and cost ranges from $50 to $60 a night. The rooms include basic amenities like cable television, air-conditioning, and fiber optic WiFi.

"We built a hotel that is comfortable for both tourists and locals, well designed, with trees and a good spaces where guests can truly relax and enjoy their stay," he said.

He assured that Saipan Vegas still has many projects in the pipeline. "We are still planning to build more rooms. A swimming pool, a Mexican restaurant, and a jungle bar near the golf course are in the pipeline."

The gaming resort has 100 machines that are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, while the golf course is open from Monday to Sunday. It costs only $25 for residents and comes with a golf cart.

According to Noble, the resort also wants to contribute to the CNMI's growing economy.

"We have a policy of 100 percent local employment. We have a few contract workers who take care of the golf course but all the new employees are locals. I can say that we are a big taxpayer but we definitely don't mind because that's how we make our contribution to the economy."

Saipan Vegas Resort has a special offer for local residents for the whole month of November: $40/night stay with a welcome drink, free unlimited golf, $25 pre-pay in the gaming room, free dinner, and a beer.

"We will have that special promo for one whole month to give locals a taste of what we offer. We invite them to relax, be with their family and take home with them a good Saipan Vegas Resort experience."

The resort is already getting good bookings for Christmas and New Year.

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For reservations call 234-8714 and look for hotel & golf course manager Rae Wang or log on to www.saipanvegas.com. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

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Important Legal Notice from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

If you are a current or former owner or lessee of certain Honda and Nissan vehicles, you could get cash and other benefits from a class action settlement.

Si desea recibir esta notificación en español, llámenos o visite nuestra página web.

Settlements have been reached in a class action lawsuit alleging that consumers sustained economic losses because they purchased or leased vehicles from various auto companies that manufactured, distributed, or sold vehicles containing allegedly defective airbags manufactured by Takata Corporation and its affiliates. The Settlements include certain vehicles made by Honda and Nissan (the "Subject Vehicles"). Honda and Nissan deny any and all allegations of wrongdoing and the Court has not decided who is right.

If you have already received a separate recall notice for your Honda or Nissan vehicle and have not yet had your Takata airbag repaired, you should do so as soon as possible. When recalled Takata airbags deploy, they may spray metal debris toward vehicle occupants and may cause serious injury. Please see your original recall notices and www.AirBagRecall.com for further details.

Am I included in the proposed Settlements? The Settlements include the following persons and entities:

- Owners or lessees, as of September 19, 2017, of a Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, and
- Former owners or lessees of a Honda Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, who, between November 11, 2008 and September 19, 2017, sold or returned pursuant to a lease, a Subject Vehicle that was recalled before September 19, 2017, or
- Former owners or lessees of a Nissan Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, who, between April 11, 2013 and September 19, 2017, sold or returned pursuant to a lease, a Subject Vehicle that was recalled before September 19, 2017.

A full list of the Honda and Nissan Subject Vehicles can be found at www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com. The Settlements do not involve claims of personal injury.

What do the Settlements provide? Honda and Nissan have agreed to Settlements with a combined value of approximately $703 million, including a 10% credit for the Nissan Rental Car/Loaner Program and a 20% credit for the Honda Enhanced Rental Car/Loaner Program. The Settlement Funds will be used to pay for Settlement benefits and cover the costs of the Settlements over an approximately four-year period.

The Settlements offer several benefits for Class Members, including (1) payments for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred related to a Takata airbag recall of a Subject Vehicle, (2) a Rental Car/Loaner Program while certain Subject Vehicles are awaiting repair, (3) an Outreach Program to maximize completion of the recall remedy, (4) additional cash payments to Class Members from residual settlement funds, if any remain, and (5) a Customer Support Program to help with repairs associated with affected Takata airbag inflators and their replacements. The Settlement website explains each of these benefits in detail.

How can I get a Payment? You must file a claim to receive a payment during the first four years of the Settlements. If you still own or lease a Subject Vehicle, you must also bring it to an authorized dealership for the recall remedy, as directed by a recall notice, if you have not already done so. Visit the website and file a claim online or download one and file by mail. The deadline to file a claim will be at least one year from the date the Settlements are finalized and will be posted on the website when it's known.

What are my other options? If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlements, you must exclude yourself by **January 8, 2018**. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release any claims you may have against Honda and Nissan, in exchange for certain settlement benefits. The potential available benefits are more fully described in the Settlements, available at the settlement website. You may object to the Settlements by **January 8, 2018**. You cannot both exclude yourself from, and object to, the Settlements. The Long Form Notices for each Settlement available on the website listed below explain how to exclude yourself or object. The Court will hold a fairness hearing on **February 7, 2018** to consider whether to finally approve the Settlements and a request for attorneys' fees of up to 30% of the total Settlement Amount and incentive awards of $5,000 for each of the Class Representatives. You may appear at the fairness hearing, either by yourself or through an attorney hired by you, but you don't have to. For more information, including the relief, eligibility and release of claims, in English or Spanish, call or visit the website below.

1-888-735-5596 • www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com

Plan in the works for NMI coastal, marine areas

The CNMI Ocean Planning Team recently kicked off a two-day meeting as part of the Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body mission toward developing a comprehensive plan for the CNMI's coastal and marine areas.

The CNMI representatives to the PIRPB are Janice Castro, acting director for the Division of Coastal Resource Management, and Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente.

Benavente noted that the PIRPB kickoff meetings focused on increasing the community's understanding of the benefits and requirements of ocean planning in the CNMI.

"Our team discussed ocean planning needs and began identifying opportunities to build on existing planning, which include developing a process for drafting a comprehensive CNMI ocean plan and membership of the CNMI Ocean Planning Team. It is important that these discussions are renewed and improved to reflect the changes in our environment and all our stakeholders needs," Benavente said.

Discussions began with an overview and background of coastal and marine spatial planning and what could be included.

"Our group conducted exercises to begin thinking critically about the planning process as well as reviewing the processes that worked for other jurisdictions. When we look at sustainable management, and the establishment of PIRPB, we are considering different regions, diverse needs, and effective policy. From improving regulatory efficiency, to climate change and fishery management, balancing responsibilities described under Executive Order 13547, Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts and Great Lakes or the National Ocean Policy is for the betterment of our Pacific region, our indigenous people, and the nation," Castro said.

On Day 2 of the meetings, the group reviewed plans developed in other regions to find successful strategies and see how those could be incorporated into the CNMI's plan.

"The two-day meetings ended with discussions identifying the next steps and who would complete them," said Division of Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologist Trey Dunn. "This meeting is the beginning of a two-year process to create a successful coastal and marine spatial plan to limit conflicts and encourage more efficient use of the CNMI's coastal and marine areas as demand for resources and space increase."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that when the PIRPB was established four years ago, sustainable management of coastal and marine resources was to focus on data with collaboration throughout the Pacific region.

"As we've seen with discussions and data provided by [the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration] and other related agencies, coastal and marine planning is an enormous undertaking. We are now, more than ever, emphasizing what data and science is showing us. Coastal and marine resources is crucial to the viability of Pacific Island economies, and our decisions now moving forward will reflect the diverse needs of our region and will better inform local management practices, maintain the health of the ocean, support employment and new economic opportunities, and preserve our most valuable resource. I commend the CNMI Ocean Planning Team for their diligence and efforts," Torres said.

The Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body was established April 2013. Its members will work together to develop a regional plan for the balanced, sustainable management of the coastal and marine areas of the Pacific Islands region using guidance from the National Ocean Council, the National Ocean Policy, Implementation Plan, and Marine Planning Handbook. The inaugural meeting of the Pacific Islands RPB was held in July 2013.

For more information, log on to pacificislandsrbp.org. ***(PR)***

BAIL HEARING

With bandage wrapped around his head and arm, Antonio Barrit, 62, walks on the hallway of Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's courtroom, shortly after the bail hearing on Monday afternoon of Alfonso S. Parongan. Barrit and family members and friends watched the hearing. Parongan allegedly stabbed and injured Barrit with a kitchen knife and fatally stabbed Barrit's wife, Josephina Pineda, 53, outside their house in Chalan Kanoa Sunday night.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

FHB raises $53,627 for Harvey relief fund

HONOLULU, Hawaii— First Hawaiian Bank has managed to raise $53,627 for its Aloha Relief for Harvey Fund.

In an announcement yesterday, Bob Harrison, FHB chairman and chief executive officer, said all contributions to the Aloha Relief for Harvey Fund were donated to the American National Red Cross to assist the Hurricane Harvey relief efforts.

Hurricane Harvey devastated Houston and eastern Texas on Aug. 25, 2017, causing catastrophic flooding. It was the first major hurricane to make landfall in the U.S. mainland since Wilma in 2005.

FHB established the fund to assist the American Red Cross in their efforts to help the thousands of residents who were devastated by Hurricane Harvey.

FHB donated the first $25,000 to the fund and its 62 branches in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan served as community donation collection points from Aug. 31 through Sept. 30, 2017.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Derek Baughman, First Hawaiian Bank executive vice president and chief information officer; Coralie Matayoshi, chief executive officer, American Red Cross Pacific Island Region; and Sharon Shiroma Brown, FHB Foundation president.

A check was presented yesterday by FHB executive vice president and chief information officer Derek Baughman and FHB Foundation president Sharon Shiroma Brown to Coralie Matayoshi, chief executive officer, American Red Cross Pacific.

FHB was founded in 1858 as Bishop & Co. and offers a suite of banking services to consumer and commercial customers, including deposit products, lending, wealth management, insurance, private banking and trust services. The bank operates 57 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan. FHB Inc., the parent company, is the largest publicly traded company based in Hawaii. ***(PR)***

NMHC to host training on fair housing

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. will be hosting a two-part seminar on fair housing starting on Dec. 12, 2017, from 9am to 4pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The training is for homeowners, landlords, property managers, site managers, maintenance personnel, Section 504 coordinators, or anyone interested in fair housing.

Whether you are a property owner, manager, coordinator, or employee who interacts with applicants or tenants, you have to understand fair housing requirements. Fair housing laws permeate every aspect of housing, from the first interaction with an applicant when he or she calls the office until the date the tenant moves out of his or her unit.

For instance, did you know that the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in multiple areas of housing-related transactions, including advertising? Specifically, the Fair Housing Act prohibits publishing advertisements that indicate "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on" the protected categories "with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling."

Whether you realize it or not, you are likely "advertising" your property in some form or fashion every day because that term includes any verbal or written statement on flyers, brochures, banners, leaflets, signs, posters, deeds, applications, pictures, and even property-based roommate ads. In fact, just about anything staff members *say or imply* to prospective renters in person, writing, or by phone can be considered advertising.

What about reasonable accommodation and reasonable modification requests from your tenants? What is a request for accommodation? What can property managers ask for to establish that a tenant actually needs an accommodation? Is every request "reasonable?" Can a tenant have any type of animal as an accommodation?

Come learn about how to address the everyday pitfall in advertising, responding to reasonable accommodations, and much, much more including: 1) how the aging population is going to affect your properties' accessibility, 2) criminal background checks, 3) preventing housing harassment, and 4) addressing requests for assistance animals, service animals and companion animals.

Registration fee before Nov. 30, 2017, is $40 per person and registration fee after Nov. 30, 2017, is $50 per person. For government agencies and non-profit partners, the registration fee is $25 per person. The fee will cover the two-day training and refreshments. Due to limited seating, contact Doraine Camacho or Jacob Muña at 234-6866/9447/7670 for reservations. ***(PR)***

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Attorney for Petitioner/Claimant Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: RAMON M. SABLAN, Decedent.	Civil Action No. 17-0256 CV NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO PROBATE WILL; NOTICE TO CREDITORS Date: November 16. 2017 Time: 9:00 a.m. Judge: Joseph N. Camacho

TO:THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE RAMON M. SABLAN OR OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Bank of Guam** of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner"), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Probate of the Will of the **Estate of Ramon M. Sablan, Decedent.** The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

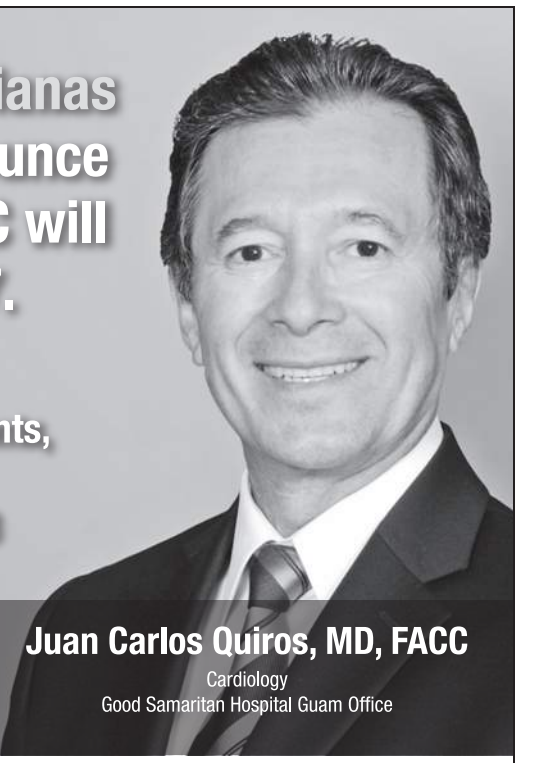
The hearing on the Petition to Probate Will by **Bank of Guam**, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on **November 16, 2017 at 9:00 am** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons. creditors or enties having claims against the Decedent or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the addresss herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 21st day of October, 2017.
/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

Good Samaritan Hospital and Marianas Medical Center is pleased to announce that Juan Carlos Quiros, MD, FACC will be on island November 9-11, 2017.

For more information, referrals and/or appointments, please contact your physician or Marianas Medical Center at (670) 234-3926/27/28



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Meet Dr. Juan Carlos Quiros cardiologist and Medical Director for Good Samaritan Hospital Guam office bringing cardiovascular care excellence to the CNMI.

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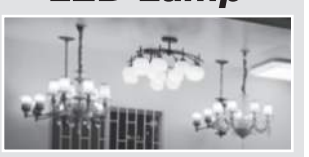

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 219

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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EDITORIAL

How Congress can protect Mueller now

The noise began last week, with conservatives and President Donald Trump wondering why special prosecutor Robert Mueller wasn't spending his time on better things than possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia. The volume was turned up over the weekend, with an astounding Wall Street Journal editorial saying that Mueller was too close to the FBI and should resign, followed by an op-ed saying that Trump should fire the prosecutor if he doesn't step down.

Now, with the indictments Monday of former high-ranking Trump campaign officials Paul Manafort and Rick Gates – and with a campaign adviser pleading guilty to lying to the FBI about a 2016 meeting with a Russian professor – members of Congress need to be even louder today with an unambiguous message:

Donald Trump should not move to fire Robert Mueller. To do so would be the most egregious use of presidential power in history.

Monday's indictments put to rest the notion that the Russia investigation is fake news. It is not a witch hunt, as the president alleges. It's not an exercise in excuse-making for Hillary Clinton's loss last November. Most Americans know this. The most powerful American, Trump, probably knows this, too.

The president, however, has shown a willingness to go to extraordinary lengths to protect himself or lash out at what he believes is wrong. What can members of Congress do to prevent Trump from doing so now with Mueller? They must back up their words with action – specifically, a bill that not only would protect Mueller against removal, but would block other types of interference the president might consider.

North Carolina senator Thom Tillis has already given his colleagues a blueprint of how to begin. In August, Tillis introduced the Special Counsel Integrity Act, which would let Mueller appeal his firing in court. Tillis also told interviewers that he was skeptical about Mueller's investigation being a "witch hunt," and his GOP colleagues lauded Mueller's integrity. That's the right thing to say. Tillis, along with other Republicans, should say it again this week.

But the Tillis bill, along with a similar measure co-authored by South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham, doesn't go quite far enough. A better bill would eliminate an annual funding reauthorization that the president could use to shut off money to Mueller, and it could revive the old independent prosecutor statute that forbid any interference in investigations. That statute was allowed to lapse in 1999 by members of both parties who worried that previous prosecutors had too much authority.

There is no way to know today the ultimate significance of Monday's indictments, which notably do not include any mention of collusion and high-level Trump campaign officials. These could be the only big charges to come from Mueller's investigation, or they could be the first move in making an airtight case against the president. Only the special prosecutor and his team know what's to come, and Congress should make sure they get to see it through.

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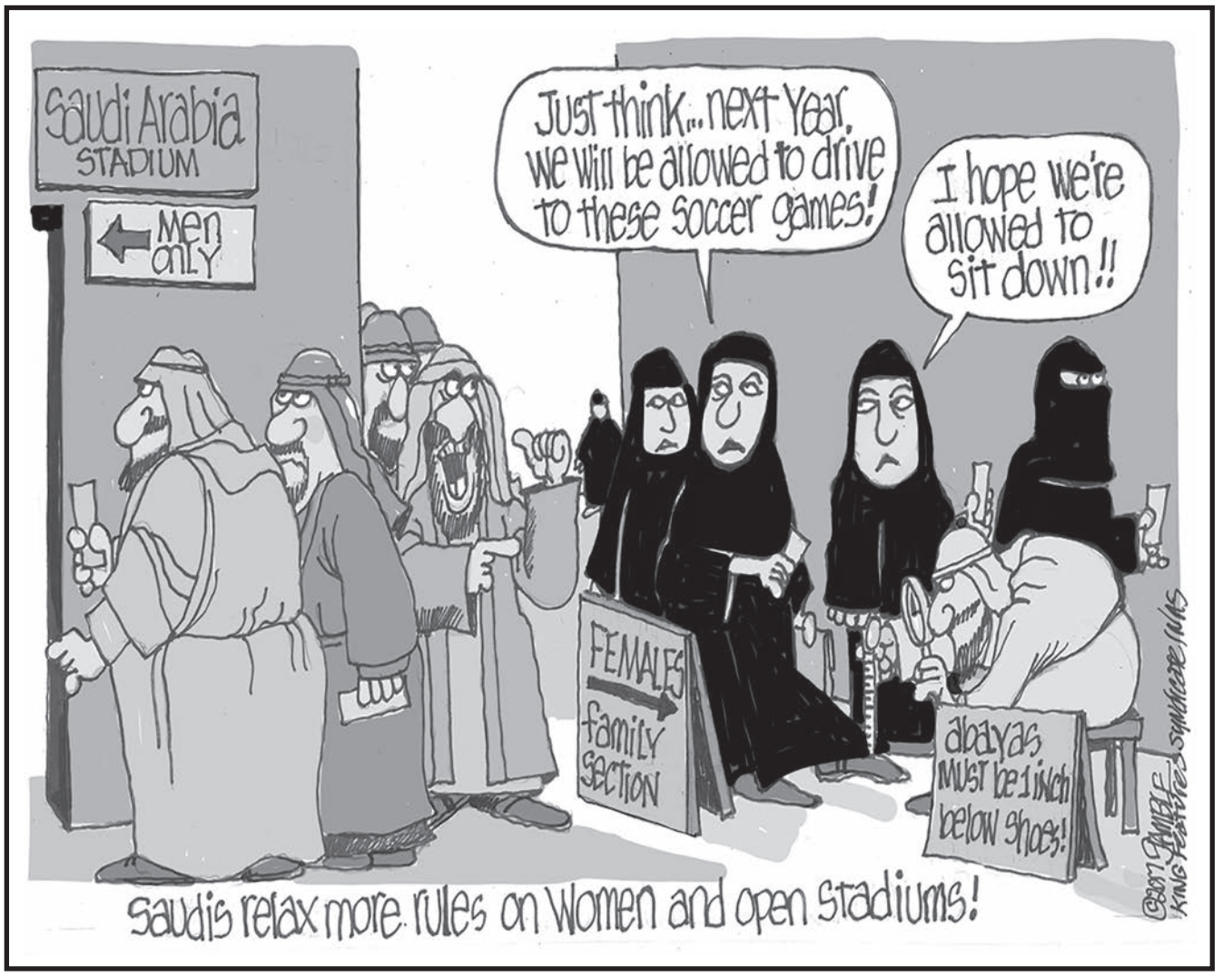
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$979.01 for Black Friday

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

The business press is already buzzing with speculation about how retail sales will fare during the upcoming holiday season. A Nov. 1 article in the *Wall Street Journal* offers this headline: "How the iPhone X Could Steal Christmas."

Maybe you're not ready for Christmas. Maybe I'm not ready for it, either. But the analysts? They're already on the case.

According to the article, the new iPhone X may suck up $30 billion worth of consumer spending in the fourth quarter of the year. The logic goes that this'll be $30 billion less that consumers will have available to spend on holiday stuff.

This new iPhone will retail for a reported $999. Hmm. Well, as long as we're talking high finance here, I can't help but note that this is $979.01 more than my phone cost.

In theory, this should free up my wallet for the holidays. But in reality, however, there's a cold wind stirring over my holiday list. That's because I haven't seen any cool products for 2017 to get excited about. Not that I'm snubbing the new iPhone, but I have no need for one and the price is a little too heavy to make it a stocking-stuffer.

Maybe I should call one of those retail analysts. Those guys are so far ahead of the game they probably finished their shopping before Good Friday. Meanwhile, I fear I'll be scrambling to come up with something on Black Friday.

Well, perhaps it's no great loss. In my circles it's shaping up to be a tame holiday season anyway.

One reason is that some friends have their noses to the grindstone more than usual now. They are either expanding their businesses or are sprinting in a home-stretch of activity while aiming for retirement.

By contrast, some others have dropped their packs, so to speak. They didn't retire. They just, well, stopped. And if they didn't stop entirely they opted to become "underemployed." This includes a couple of medical doctors as well as sundry other professionals.

How can this happen? One factor I've seen is that people who missed a step on the great American home equity escalator are locked out. This can happen because of taking an overseas assignment (Saipan will do nicely) or because of a divorce or illness.

But, whatever the reason, the gist in these cases is that no matter how hard you bang your head against the wall, it's somebody else's wall. It's not surprising that some people stop banging.

Or as my friend Sparky puts it: "If don't have a big house on the hill you might as well enjoy your time in a trailer. These days, there ain't no middle ground."

Sparky has, as usual, managed to encapsulate an entire chapter of economics in just one breath between cigarette drags. This particular chapter, in the parlance of economics, is the "income and substitution effect."

Anyway, I think the middle ground is where the holiday action is usually rooted. If you're too engaged in work, or too disengaged from work, you're probably not on the optimal holiday wavelength.

The economics of Saipan, meanwhile, point to the fact that some of you, or some people on your gift list, are going to be engaged with Mandarin Chinese in 2018. This topic grows in importance every year. It has become a constant theme in my humble column. Hey, some things are just so big and so obvious that not even I can overlook them.

Here, then, is another observation. I've been trying to avoid toting around a physical Chinese dictionary. I've therefore had to re-acquaint myself with the Android world. I likewise re-acquainted myself with the Pleco electronic dictionary (available at Pleco.com). It has free versions for both Android and iOS. Paid features are also available.

This app is so useful that I rue my misguided efforts to ever do without it. A few seconds with Pleco can save all sorts of contortions trying to research Chinese words or characters.

If you don't have $999 to sink into a whiz-bang phone, don't worry. It doesn't take a fancy device to use Pleco. I put it on my $19.99 Android phone and it works just fine. In fact, that's why I got the phone in the first place. I still prefer my old flip phone for calls, but Pleco is just too useful to pass up.

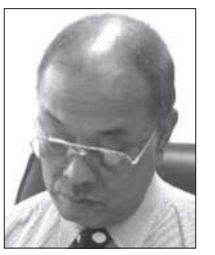
As for the approaching holidays, I don't even know where I'll be yet. As for you, I hope that your plans are shaping up the way you want them to. If you happen to be joining the hordes at the Black Friday sales I might be right next to you.

Hey, after that we can have some eggnog. Your trailer or mine?

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Looking ahead

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

After a week of heavy negative tidings about fatal stabbing, missing person, suicide, and firing, I had to find an issue to change dreadful events.

So I set my sight on next year's general election, e.g., likely prospects for every post on the hill. Not a calming topic either but better than the earlier negative tidings.

I won't name people. It should grant us time to focus on issues that have stirred public discussion among villagers. Let's explore the pulse of our community!

At home: Has your family income increased over the last 20 years? Or was it stagnant (stayed the same) throughout the period? With more than half of employees literally drowning in poverty income level, was the 5 percent of any help after healthcare cost shot up simultaneously by as much as 56 to over 100 percent? Hmmm! The lights are on but nobody's home!

Private industry employees are skipped altogether. It was a perfect show of arrogance stampeding the productive sector of the community. They're taxed to pad government salaries that are higher by at least three dollars per hour. Why suffocate this group of employees who are literally struggling too?

Compare: Now, let's compare your increase versus theirs. Let's say you're making $24K per year. You add the 5 percent hike of $1,200 for a total of $25K. You add the 80-percent increase in legislative salary of $39,500 for a hefty increase of some $31,600, for a total annual income of $71,100.

Eh, da guys and gals are still way ahead by some $30,400 while you munch on meatless bone on the dirty kitchen floor. An appalling sense of perception, giving taxpayers the perfect royal-screw, confirming they've taken you for fools too! Really? Well, some dire reciprocity is on its way for delivery in 2018.

Future: Now, let's say that a good number of our esteemed legislators lose in next year's election. Would any of them find a job that pays $71,100 per year with comically humiliating credentials? Or wouldn't they be relegated to hauling picnic tables and canopies? Honestly, would any of you land a job that pays handsomely as your unearned legislative salary today? Louder, please?

Moreover, taxpayers deserve better quality representation than what we have today. Opening luggage at the Division of Customs for 20 years doesn't qualify one to take a leap of blind faith into policymaking.

Hence, we should require at least an AA degree or better as a must-have qualifications to run for public office. Eh, we may be assured that the humiliating reading deficiencies turn history. It should also ensure that policymakers are conversant of issues and capable of articulating their views.

In simple terms, it's good to have people who know where the goal posts are located when they hit the ground running. Enough of the search and rescue squadron looking for the backdoor at the Legislature!

Economy: It is trumpeted the growth of the local economy by 28.6 percent. Did any of this reach median income folks or the 14,000-plus drowning in poverty income and below?

Opposition: Evidently, the Democrats are simmering with determination to forge a powerful opposition group after years in hiatus. Encouraging that it is pulling in a lot of the young and educated folks into the fold. They are ready to pitch into shifting the narrative that has gone stale, retardedly boring and redundant!

The national DNC has taken an active role too. It should prove an interesting tug-o-war up ahead. A natural narrative awaits Democrats fully packaged by the GOP itself! Democrats would present strong and meaningful opposition against Uncle Taga. Isn't this the legend that killed his son for crap? *No mas*!

Malpractice: It's not surprising why insurance firms keep a 10-foot pole from providing physicians here with malpractice insurance. It isn't surprising, though, why physicians prefer the current arrangement where malpractice is covered under a government liability program.

It would be foolhardy for the government to shoulder malpractice insurance alone. It's a hefty obligation in the millions of dollars. It could easily translate into another increase in hospital fees to make up for money going into malpractice insurance cost. It would be the equivalent of a train wreck left to mow down everything in its way, especially empty family pockets.

The NMI definitely needs a strong vetting system where CHC hires experienced physicians who are also conscientious. Moreover, to defray the cost of malpractice medical insurance, it is wise to let doctors pay 50 percent of the cost. It should force them to guard against careless mistakes, knowing that half would be coming out of their pockets. The current arrangement only encourages a tour of the Asia-Pacific area.

Partnership: Kaiser Permanente, a huge healthcare consortium, has moved into Maui to offer a partnership—private/public—in the delivery of quality healthcare. The island population is almost the same as the NMI.

What it has to offer may be a good thing to explore in an effort to ensure healthcare delivery here doesn't take a steady diet of deterioration, including cost beyond the reach of ordinary folks. Frankly, has the quality of healthcare improved since CHC opened its doors in 1986? Does it have a good backup system?

Oral cancer! In the mid-'80s, I met a patient at Straub Medical Clinic whose entire jaw was removed for oral cancer. It was replaced with prosthesis. I felt sorry the elderly man never knew his fatal ailment came from years of betel nut chewing.

I learned that oral cancer metastasizes (spreads) quickly, where the patient easily loses taste, tongue, jaw, and life. Once you contract it, even an aggressive treatment isn't a guarantee of bouncing back to normal health. Quit now while you're healthy!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tribute to a noble man: Imants 'Ed' Klingbergs

Whereof the man, that with me trod
This planet, was a noble type
Appearing ere the times were ripe,
That friend of mine who lives in God.
—Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *In Memoriam*

Klingbergs

Physical distance is one thing; but the heart's distance another.

Thus I remained close to a dear friend on Saipan: Imants "Ed" Klingbergs.

It was a bit of a shock to learn of his death on Oct. 29, 2017.

A kind and noble man has left us.

Long-term educator, entrepreneur, builder, landlord and close friend, Edward was always there to help others.

His kindness, calmness and wisdom were a godsend for those who may have run into difficulties navigating the ups and downs of island life. He was someone you always could count on no matter what. He loved his children and grand children and thought being with them was the greatest pleasure life had to offer.

His last project I believe was to build a house in the mountains with a beautiful ocean view. He finished it and I trust his spirit will have a place to rest. All who knew could not help but to be influenced by his kindness, resilience, stability, and generosity. His heart touched many. He will be deeply missed.

Samuel Gugliotta, M. ED and Kui Cheng
Dallas, Texas

LITERARY NOOK

Tweet Twaddle and Twit

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

"Wisdom is knowledge tempered by experience. Wisdom is the sage and common sense application of the law in all factual settings, wisdom is delivering professional counsel by logically analyzing the facts, identifying issues and solution sets, and communicating the right information at the right time to accomplish the mission."

—Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Air Force, JAG Corps Values and Vision

To WIT: W.isdom I.ncompatible T.rump

One year after election 45 seems indefatigable
devoid of diplomacy with wisdom incompatible
can you find knowledge tempered by experience
insults, vulgarities make him seem more dense
refusing to listen to his generals on common sense
he does seem to want to accomplish one mission
in North Korea that involves use of nuclear fission
see any application of law, analysis of issues and facts
nothing but Tweeting and confused autocratic tactics
do you hear the right information at the right time
he communicates misinformation on a daily basis
his volatile congressional relationship puts it in stasis
lacking wisdom to distract from issues he likes to dabble
from WH "dump" tower sends constant Tweets and babble.

DJT Leadership Evaluation Week

Your thought process is a worthless antique
in that Bigly Trump you are not so unique
you tweet twaddle and twit week after week
off the top of your head you constantly speak
ascertaining your meaning hard as classical Greek
you're paddling without a paddle up the creek
with the diplomatic skills of a circus geek
ability to work with others is pathetique
comprehension how Congress works a mystique
paranoid night and day about any news leak
blessed to you are the sycophants and the meek
despite rounds of golf your physique not sleek
'F' for leadership , weaker and getting more weak
chance of reelection oblique and getting bleak.

11/07/16: A Day America Will Recall in Shame

Brought to bear in mind a national knowledge
of how more than three million plus popular votes
were overcome by the archaic electoral college
political vision blinded by Russian meme smotes
a pessimistic inauguration speech began his journeys
appointees fired and staff leaving made things worse
interviewing his possible prosecuting attorneys
running the presidency from his own golf course
inarticulate bombastic incapable of speech that's formal
waffling on major issues stalling all legislation
what no president ever said before now the new normal
keeps putting the entire Congress in deep frustration
is he cunning? some feel he's too ignorant to be devious
tweet addiction makes him seem to be totally oblivious.

Bigly Ballad Robbing the Hood

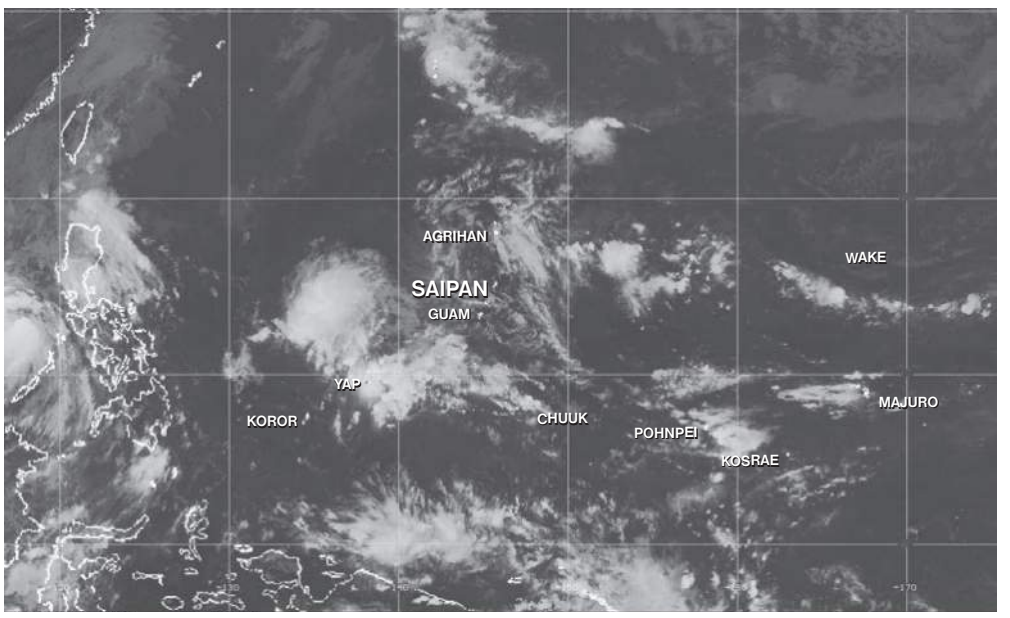
T'was near the town of Alexandria VA
with his "dump" White House not far away
that Bigly Bling Baby rolled into town
in great hopes for an eight year stay
he spent huuge amounts of time on Twitter
then realized he really didn't want to come
and wound up always sounding angry and bitter
unless golfing or insulting Kim Young Dumb
his rich foreign friends stay at his D.C. hotel
his golf links more expensive in the Florida sun
where he tells advisors and leaders to go to well
with threats of nuclear war he is having bigly fun
he wants to get the 1% rich more tax breaks today
came to DC with bling and with bling he'll go away.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 2:57 AM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A convective complex is seen on the latest IR satellite data just north of the Saipan waters. This system is moving westward as it slowly builds to the south. Another band of showers and thunderstorms developed just south of Guam waters. Expect both of these areas of convection to remain outside of the Marianas waters through the day, yet they are close enough that it was prudent to add a slight chance of thunderstorms to the forecast for today. Models continue to indicate a drying trend over the next few days, though mostly cloudy skies remain likely through Saturday morning.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	72° / 61°
Beijing	Showers	77° / 66°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	85° / 75°
London	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 50°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	67° / 57°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 46°
Miami	Mostly Sunny	81° / 72°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	72° / 50°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	64° / 46°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	61° / 45°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	68° / 50°
Salem	Sunny	79° / 59°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	59° / 51°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	54° / 34°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	70° / 48°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	78° / 52°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:45 AM	LOW TIDE	0.15
6:52 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
12:51 PM	LOW TIDE	0.55
6:40 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.06

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Saturday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Sunday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	4:56 am	5:11 pm
Saturday	-	5:55 am	6:01 pm
Sunday	-	6:55 am	6:53 pm
Monday	-	7:58 am	7:49 pm
Tuesday	-	9:01 am	8:48 pm

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 28, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-NANJING (NKG)

XP889	4:45pm	10:30pm	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:05pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:05pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

NANJING (NKG)-SAIPAN

XP888	9:35pm	4:00am+1	1, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA182/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
UA116/6395	10:50pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express, XP XTRA Airways; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

House GOP's evolving tax bill leaves retirement plan intact

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republicans would leave intact current tax rules on retirement accounts popular with middle class Americans and maintain a top income tax rate for million-dollar earners as negotiators scrambled to finalize the first major overhaul in three decades.

The legislation is a long-standing goal for Capitol Hill Republicans who see a once-in-a-generation opportunity to clean up an inefficient, loophole-cluttered tax code. But there is lingering opposition from northeastern Republicans fearful of losing a cherished deduction for state and local taxes and anxiety among other rank-and-file lawmakers over emerging details.

Senior GOP lawmakers confirmed the decision to retain existing rules on 401(k) accounts, which came after assurances from President Donald Trump that they would not be changed. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, had hoped to reduce 401(k) contribution limits, in part to generate new tax revenues in the near term to finance the cuts to income tax rates.

Another lawmaker cautioned that the decision might still change. The lawmakers required anonymity because the tax panel is trying to keep its deliberations secret until the tax measure is released Thursday.

Influential conservative Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., dismissed proposed retirement changes as a "non-starter," adding "that's what most of middle-income America uses as their nest egg."

Brady said the panel hoped to meet Trump's goal of a cut in the top corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 20 percent but allowed that the change would not be permanent because of arcane Senate rules.

Republicans and Trump argue sharply cutting tax rates for businesses improves U.S. economic competitiveness, but the possibility of letting the lower corporate rates expire is rankling some longtime advocates who say the uncertainty could limit its boost to the economy.

Top Republicans vowed to release the measure on Thursday after missing a self-imposed Wednesday deadline and dismissed rumors that the unveiling might be further delayed. The ambitious timetable calls for passing the measure in the House by Thanksgiving.

"Failure is not an option," said Rep. Chris Collins, R-N.Y.

The emerging plan would retain the Clinton-era 39.6 percent income tax rate for the wealthiest earners. But for that highest bracket, the tax writers were considering raising the minimum level of income to $1 million for couples or families from the current $470,000 - a change that would reduce tax revenue.

Trump weighed in Wednesday on Twitter: "Wouldn't it be great to Repeal the very unfair and unpopular Individual Mandate in ObamaCare and use those savings for further Tax Cuts for the Middle Class. The House and Senate should consider ASAP as the process of final approval moves along. Push Biggest Tax Cuts EVER."

The idea of repealing the individual mandate has been pushed by Republican Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas, but was dismissed by key GOP leaders since it would add political complications to an already difficult task of crafting a tax bill that can pass the House and Senate.

"I think tax reform is complicated enough without adding another layer of complexity," said No. 2 Senate Republican John Cornyn of Texas. Rep. Kristi Noem, R-S.D., a participant in the talks as a member of the tax-writing panel, said there was insufficient support among committee Republicans to include it in the bill.

GOP leaders still struggled to win over lawmakers from New York and New Jersey, many of whom are opposed to repealing a lucrative deduction for state and local taxes that benefits their states more than others.

Newly disclosed Facebook ads show Russia's cyber intrusion

WASHINGTON (AP)—A trove of Facebook ads made public Wednesday by Congress depicts Russia's extraordinary cyber intrusion into American life in 2016 aimed at upending the nation's democratic debate and fomenting discord over such disparate issues as immigration, gun control and politics.

The ads, seen by vast numbers of people, encouraged street demonstrations against Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton and fostered support and opposition to Bernie Sanders, Muslims, gays, blacks and the icons of the Civil Rights movement.

The few dozen ads, a small sampling of the roughly 3,000 Russia-connected ones that Facebook has identified and turned over to Congress, were released amid two consecutive days of tough and sometimes caustic questioning by House and Senate lawmakers about why social media giants hadn't done more to combat Russian interference on their sites.

The ads underscore how foreign agents sought to sow confusion, anger and discord among Americans through messages on hot-button topics. U.S. intelligence services say the Russian use of social media was part of a broad effort to sway the 2016 presidential election in favor of Trump. Special counsel Robert Mueller is investigating whether the Kremlin worked with the Trump campaign to influence voters.

Many of the ads show careful targeting, with messages geared toward particular audiences. One ad, aimed at those with an interest in civil rights and their leaders, highlights a man who claims to be Bill Clinton's illegitimate son. Another video parodying Trump was targeted at blacks who also are interested in BlackNews.com, HuffPost Politics or HuffPost Black Voices.

Though officials at Facebook and other social media giants were initially reluctant to acknowledge Russian success on their sites in swaying popular opinion, company leaders have struck a different tone in recent weeks and disclosed steps to Congress they say are intended to prevent future meddling by foreign agents.

In preparation for hearings this week, Facebook disclosed that content generated by a Russian group, the Internet Research Agency, potentially reached as many as 126 million users. Company executives said that going forward they would verify political ad buyers in federal elections, requiring them to reveal correct names and locations. The site will also create new graphics where users can click on the ads and find out more about who's behind them.

But that did not prevent hours of questioning during two days of hearings, with lawmakers expressing exasperation at the seeming inability to thwart foreign intervention.

This two-day workshop will equip you with the tools to achieve business control, survival and success.

Why Profit Mastery?

Starting and running a business is always a challenge, given the failure rate of 50-70% in the first four years. The economic volatility of the last few years has only increased that challenge.

Profit Mastery is a leading financial management program that gives participants the tools and confidence needed to manage their businesses by the numbers. The program provides independent business owners unparalleled financial perspective and tools to take advantage of opportunities. Starting and running a business without Profit Mastery is like setting out for an unfamiliar destination without a road map. You'll be introduced to invaluable management resources that should be part of every business owner's tool kit. *You will laugh too, we promise!*

AGENDA

Thursday, November 16th
- **Monitoring Financial Position**
- **Cause & Effect: Roadmap to a Bigger Bottom Line**
- **Income Statement: Break-Even Analysis**

Friday, November 17th
- **Profit Planning & Cash Flow Analysis**
- **Planning & Managing Long-Term Growth**
- **Dealing with Banks & Investor Funding**

How to Attend Profit Mastery:

DATE:
Thursday & Friday,
November 16th & 17th

TIME:
8 am - 5 pm (both days)

PRESENTER:
Rod Bristol
Executive Vice President, Profit Mastery

COST:
$60 per person (Lunch Included)
***Space is limited, register now!

LOCATION:
Pacific Islands Club (PIC)
Saipan, Napu Room

Who Should Attend:
Business owners, managers with direct financial responsibility, and anyone interested in learning more about financial management.

For more information, please contact the CNMI SBDC at 664-3018.

To Register: visit https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/

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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO.: CPA-RA-001-17

BTMIA AIRLINE OFFICE RENOVATION (FORMERLY FREEDOM AIR)
BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed bids, subject to the terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bid (the "IFB"), and other contract provisions, for bids from firms, companies and/or corporations for office renovations to the former Freedom Air Lease space at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package is available for pick-up beginning November 06, 2017 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of Fifty Dollars ($50.00). The Bid Package includes layouts and project specification. Bidders must submit all required documents listed in the bid package. All responses to this IFB shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project if so required.

Questions and/or clarification concerning this project shall be in writing and sent to the attention of the Executive Director through email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to Fermin Flores at ferminf@cpa.gov.mp no later than November 23, 2017.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"BTMIA AIRLINE OFFICE RENOVATION, ROTA AIRPORT (Formerly Freedom Air) CPA-RA-001-17."** One (1) original and three (3) copies of the bid must be submitted no later than **2 p.m. LOCAL TIME, November 30, 2017**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All bids shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date

Nation

Feds: Truck attack suspect said 'he felt good about' rampage

AP
A photo of Sayfullo Saipov is displayed at a news conference at One Police Plaza Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—The suspect in a deadly truck rampage was inspired by the Islamic State group's online videos and plotted his New York City attack for two months, renting a truck ahead of time to practice turning it, federal authorities said in a criminal complaint bringing terrorism charges against the Uzbek immigrant.

Sayfullo Saipov chose the attack date to target Halloween crowds, according to the criminal complaint. And after his trail of terror was halted by a police bullet, he asked to display the Islamic State group's flag in his hospital room, saying "he felt good about what he had done," authorities said.

Brought to court in a wheelchair, Saipov was held without bail on charges that could bring the death penalty. Separately, the FBI was questioning people who might have information about his actions before the attack, including a second Uzbek man.

The charges against Saipov, 29, came just a day after the attack near the World Trade Center killed eight people. Investigators in multiple states raced to retrace Saipov's steps and understand his motivations, which they said were illuminated by a note he left by the truck: "Islamic Supplication. It will endure." The phrase "it will endure" commonly refers to the Islamic State group, and Saipov had a cellphone loaded with the group's propaganda, an FBI agent said in the criminal complaint.

Handcuffed and with his legs shackled, Saipov nodded his head as he was read his rights in a brief court proceeding that he followed through a Russian interpreter. Outside court, his appointed lawyer, David Patton, said he hoped "everyone lets the judicial process play out."

"I promise you that how we treat Mr. Saipov in this judicial process will say a lot more about us than it will say about him," Patton said.

The FBI released a poster saying it was looking for one of Saipov's associates, Mukhammadzoir Kadirov, only to announce less than 90 minutes later that it had found him. A law enforcement official said Kadirov was a friend of Saipov's and may not have any role in the case. The official wasn't authorized to speak publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

A married father of three and former commercial truck and ride-hailing driver, Saipov began planning an attack a year ago and settled on a truck assault a couple of months ago, according to the criminal complaint.

During the last few weeks, Saipov searched the internet for information on Halloween in New York City and rented a truck to practice turns. He chose a route along a lower Manhattan highway and initially hoped to continue to hit more pedestrians on the Brooklyn Bridge, the complaint said.

Ultimately, Saipov sped down a bike path on a riverfront esplanade in a rented truck for nearly a mile Tuesday, running down cyclists and pedestrians, before crashing into a school bus, authorities said. He was shot after he jumped out of the vehicle brandishing two air guns and yelling "God is great!" in Arabic, they said. Knives were found in a bag he was carrying.

In the past few years, the Islamic State group has exhorted followers online to use vehicles, knives or other close-at-hand means of killing people in their home countries. England, France and Germany have all seen deadly vehicle attacks since mid-2016.

Saipov's court appearance came just hours after President Donald Trump said he would consider sending Saipov to the Guantanamo Bay detention center in Cuba—an idea the White House reinforced by saying it considered Saipov to be an "enemy combatant." Detainees at Guantanamo accused of supporting militants have faced military tribunals, rather than trials in the U.S. legal system.

By afternoon, though, Saipov was in federal court facing charges that include providing material support to a terrorist group. Trump's administration could, at least in theory, still send the suspect to the U.S. base in Cuba later, though such a step would be unprecedented.

Late Wednesday night, the president took to Twitter to say that Saipov should get the death penalty.

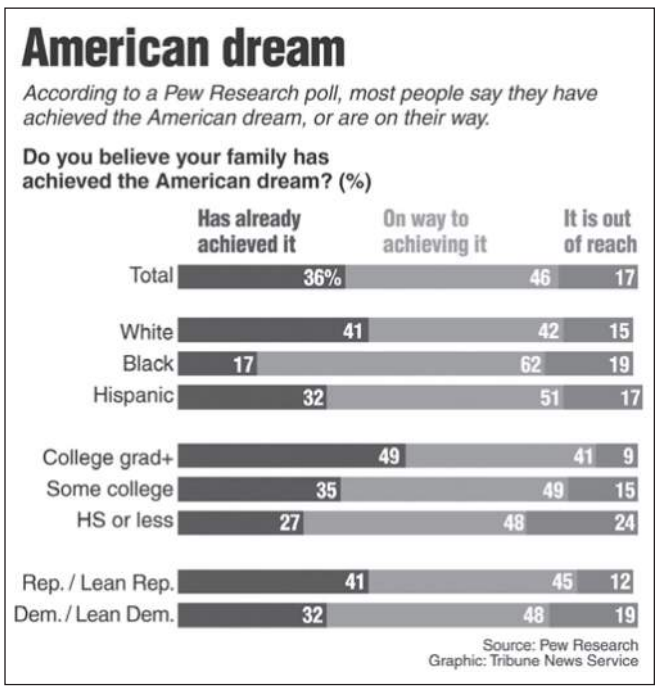
Trump also has called for eliminating the 1990s visa lottery program that Saipov used to come to the U.S. in 2010.

Trump demands 'much tougher' immigration law after NY attack

WASHINGTON (AP)—Roused by the first major ISIS-inspired attack on U.S. soil since he took office, President Donald Trump urged swift repeal of an immigration program that brought the suspect to America and laid into a political foe he said was responsible for it—though Republican George H. W. Bush signed the law.

Trump insisted Wednesday that Congress must end the visa lottery program under which Uzbek immigrant Sayfullo Saipov entered the country, and he ordered still tighter scrutiny of immigrants already subject to what he calls "extreme vetting." But the White House offered no indication of what new steps the president might be planning.

"We have to get much tougher, much smarter, and less politically correct," Trump said. He also said the U.S. justice system for dealing with such cases must be strengthened, declaring, "What we have right now is a joke and it's a laughingstock." Again, there was no elaboration from the White House.


American dream
According to a Pew Research poll, most people say they have achieved the American dream, or are on their way.
Do you believe your family has achieved the American dream? (%)
Has already achieved it
On way to achieving it
It is out of reach
Total 36% 46 17
White 41 42 15
Black 17 62 19
Hispanic 32 51 17
College grad+ 49 41 9
Some college 35 49 15
HS or less 27 48 24
Rep. / Lean Rep. 41 45 12
Dem. / Lean Dem. 32 48 19
Source: Pew Research
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Trump denounced the 29-year-old suspect in the truck attack, which killed eight and injured many more, as an "animal," and said he was open to sending the man to the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, instead of to trial in New York. "I would certainly consider that. Send him to Gitmo," Trump said.

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the White House considered Saipov an "enemy combatant" and had yet to decide whether to seek to move him out of the civilian judicial system to military detention.

A little later, however, prosecutors in New York filed charges in federal court accusing Saipov with providing material support to a terrorist group and committing violence and destruction of motor vehicles.

On the political front, Trump took to Twitter early Wednesday to blame Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, a Democrat who represents New York, for the bipartisan visa program used by the suspect to enter the country in 2010.

The Department of Homeland Security confirmed that Saipov entered the U.S under the Diversity Visa Lottery Program, which gives people from countries with low rates of immigration an opportunity to come to the U.S. Trump branded the program "a Chuck Schumer beauty," and called on Congress to immediately begin work to end it.

It was not immediately clear when Saipov was radicalized by the Islamic State group, but the New York City Police Department said he began planning the attack weeks ago.

Schumer did back the lottery program as a member of the House when it was approved with the support of both parties in 1990. It was signed by Republican President George H.W. Bush.

Trump's broadside against a senator from the state still reeling from the attack drew bipartisan criticism.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said that Trump's attack against Schumer "plays right into the hands of the terrorists," by sowing division at a time when unity is needed. Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said it was "probably not the best way to bring out the best in our country." Corker, who has announced he will not run for re-election in 2018, has been increasingly critical of Trump's temperament.

Schumer himself offered this advice: "The president ought to stop tweeting and start leading."

Sanders later said Trump "has not blamed Senator Schumer and doesn't feel that the senator is responsible for the attack."

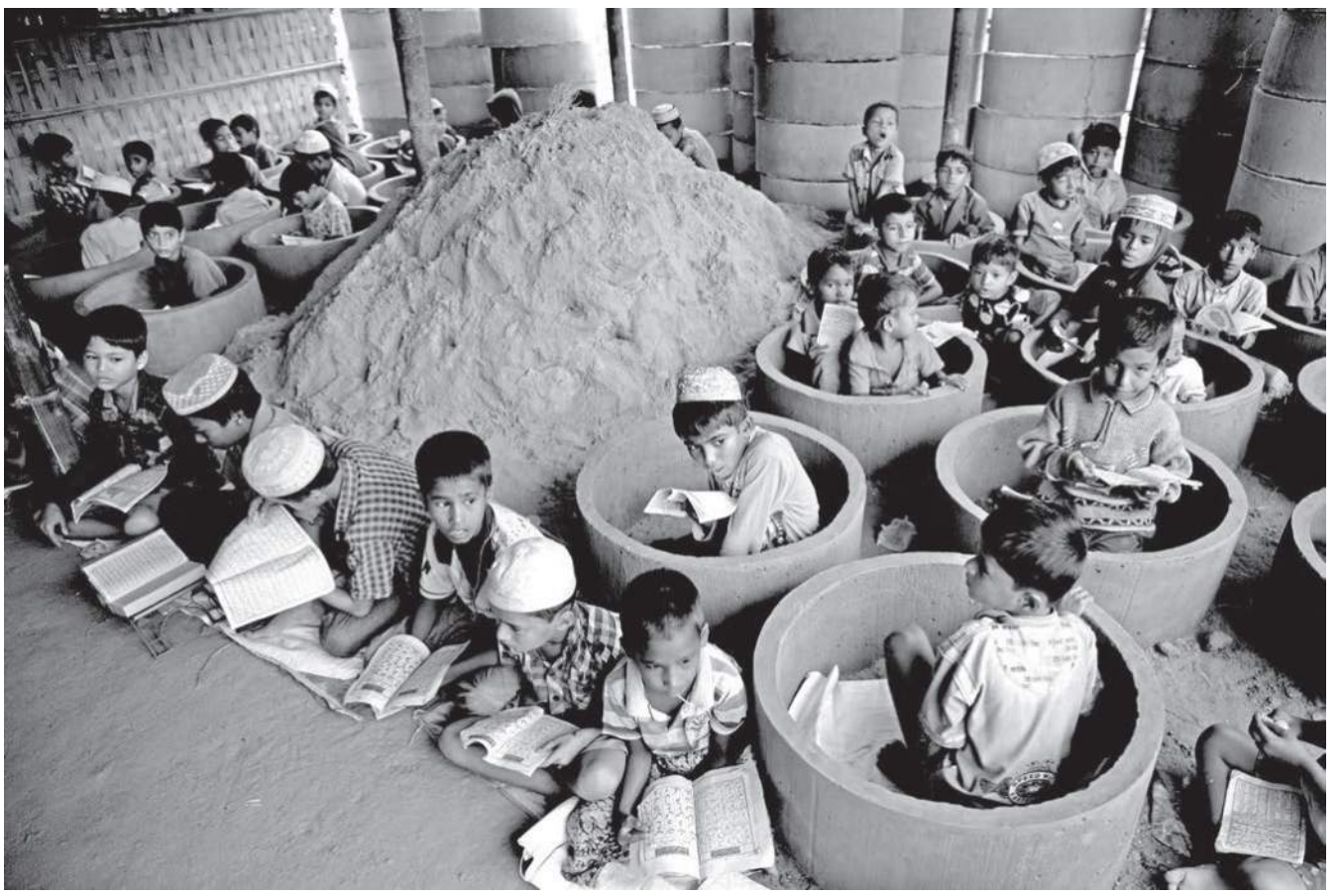
Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, defended Trump's criticism of the visa lottery program.

"The diversity lottery visa's been criticized by many people as being pretty indiscriminate in terms of who's accepted into the country. I think it needs to be looked at. And I agree with the president that it can certainly be improved by more of a merit-based system."

Sanders dismissed complaints that Trump was politicizing a tragedy, saying his calls for increasing extreme vetting of immigrants are "something that frankly the president has been talking about for a long time."

Asia

Suu Kyi visits Myanmar region torn by Rohingya conflict



AP

Rohingya refugee children attend recitation classes of the holy Quran in a newly opened madrasa, or religious school, amid material stocked for constructing latrines in Balukhali refugee camp, Bangladesh, Monday, Oct. 30, 2017.

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Aung San Suu Kyi visited the conflict-torn area of northern Rakhine state for the first time as Myanmar's leader Thursday, while her government said a plan to repatriate the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims who've fled violence there is in the works.

Suu Kyi arrived in the state capital Sittwe and headed to restive northern Rakhine where many Rohingya villages were located. During a 2015 election campaign, she visited southern Rakhine, where there hasn't been much conflict.

"The state counselor just arrived but she is heading to Maungdaw, northern Rakhine, with the state officials," said Tin Maung Swe, a deputy director of the Rakhine government, using Suu Kyi's official title.

Government spokesman Zaw Htay would not release Suu Kyi's plans for the trip until later because of security concerns.

More than 600,000 Rohingya from northern Rakhine have fled to Bangladesh since Aug. 25, when Myanmar security forces began what they called a "clearance operations" in response to deadly attacks on police outposts by insurgents. The U.N. has said the response has been disproportionate and amounts to ethnic cleansing.

The campaign has included the burning of Rohingya villages and accusations of widespread rights violations. Fleeing Rohingya have described arson and rape and shootings by Myanmar soldiers and Buddhist mobs.

The Nobel Peace laureate's global image has been damaged by the crisis and she has come under intense criticism to do more to end the violence and condemn those responsible. Several fellow peace prize winners have publicly condemned Suu Kyi for what they see as her apparent indifference to the plight of the Rohingya.

Though Suu Kyi has been the de facto head of Myanmar's civilian government since her party swept elections in 2015, the former political prisoner is limited in her control of the country by a constitution written by the junta that ruled Myanmar for decades. The military has effective veto power over all legislation and controls key ministries including those overseeing security and defense.

Yet even when Suu Kyi has spoken on the issue, she has drawn criticism. In a September speech, her first comments after the current crisis began, she asked for patience from the international community and suggested the refugees were partly responsible, saying more than half of the Rohingya villages had not been destroyed by the violence.

Suu Kyi also faces a potential domestic backlash if she speaks on behalf of the Rohingya, who have been the target of anti-Muslim rhetoric in the Buddhist-majority nation. Many among the general public agree with the official government stance that there is no such ethnicity as Rohingya and those in the country have illegally migrated from Bangladesh.

Though Rohingya first arrived generations ago, they were stripped of their citizenship in 1982, denying them almost all rights and rendering them stateless. They cannot travel freely, practice their religion, or work as teachers or doctors, and they have little access to medical care, food or education.

Myanmar's backers globally have also had to tread carefully, not wanting to undermine Suu Kyi's weak civilian government at a time when the country is just emerging from decades of authoritarian rule. Still counties like the U.S. have warned Myanmar about potential repercussions it faces if it doesn't address the crisis, including the risk of attracting international terrorists, scaring off investment, and ultimately stunting its transition to democracy.

The government said Tuesday that it was ready to repatriate Rohingya who had fled, but it blamed Bangladesh for slowing the process.

"We are ready to accept the refugees and to start verification and scrutiny process, but we have not reach to an agreement with the Bangladeshi authorities for repatriation," said Zaw Htay, the government spokesman.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Explosion at Indian power plant kills 16, injures dozens

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—At least 16 people were killed and dozens more injured in an explosion Wednesday at a thermal power plant in northern India, officials said. Sanjay Khatri, the area's top administrative officer, said a pipe carrying ash from the burning coal exploded in the newly installed boiler at the power plant in Unchahar in Uttar Pradesh state. The explosion spewed hot ash over workers at the plant. The state's top administrative officer, Arvind Kumar, said 16 bodies had been recovered. Police said the death toll is likely to increase because at least a dozen other workers suffered severe burns. The 500-megawatt unit was operating on a trial basis.

Bombing in Afghanistan sets fire to bus, killing 8

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan official says at least eight people were killed when a bus caught fire after a sticky bomb blew up a nearby fuel tanker. Nooruddin, an aide to the provincial governor in the northern Parwan province, said 27 people were wounded in Wednesday's attack in the provincial capital, Chara Kar. Nooruddin, who like many Afghans has one name, says all of those killed were civilians. Earlier Wednesday, a suicide car bomb targeted a district police commander in the northern Balkh province, killing one person. Gen. Abdul Razaq Qaderi, deputy provincial police chief, says the target of the attack, Nabi Gechi, and nine other people were wounded. No one claimed either attack.

Pakistan's disgraced ex-PM Sharif returns home from London

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's disgraced former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has returned home from London to face trial in corruption cases. Sharif was received by senior Cabinet ministers from his ruling Pakistan Muslim League party and was taken to a government guest house after his arrival at the Islamabad airport Thursday. Sharif's political future has been in doubt since July, when the Supreme Court disqualified him from office over corruption charges. He was indicted last month and has entered a not guilty plea through his lawyer. Sharif has been embroiled in corruption cases stemming from documents leaked from a Panama law firm. The 67-year-old Sharif often visits London, where his wife is receiving medical treatment.

North Koreans in Japan loyal to roots amid discrimination

TOKYO (AP)—The children, gathered in rows on a school field in Tokyo, crouch and then reach up in unison, waving red, white and blue banners to form a North Korean flag as the school band plays an emotional rendition of a song for their "motherland."

They are third- and fourth-generation descendants of Koreans, including many who were forcibly taken from their homeland to labor in mines and factories during Japan's colonization of the Korean Peninsula from 1910 until its 1945 defeat in World War II.

Though many have become citizens of Japan or South Korea, the students' families remain loyal to their heritage, choosing to send their children to one of some 60 private schools that favor North Korea, teaching the culture and history.

Despite recent North Korean missile launches, including two that flew over Japan, students and graduates of the schools say they take pride in their community and view it as a haven from the discrimination they face in Japan.

"We do things together, and we help each other," Ha Yong Na, a 16-year-old mix of giggles and poise, said as she demonstrated her Korean dance moves with a classmate.

Here, portraits of the late North Korean leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il hang on classroom walls. Teachers instruct in the language of their ancestry, and Japanese and English are offered as foreign languages. The cafeteria serves kimchee for lunch.

About 450,000 ethnic Koreans live in Japan, and several thousand attend such schools.

Schools like the North Korean Junior and Senior High School in Tokyo underline a deep divide in a country often portrayed as homogenous. North Korea's missile launches and nuclear weapons tests have deepened the complexity of the situation.

Ha and her classmates said they cherish their shared heritage and friendships and are happy they don't have to worry about being picked on for not being Japanese.

"We want graduates of our school to go out into Japanese society, and the world, with pride, as Koreans in Japan, and be able to confidently express themselves," said Kim Seng Fa, a graduate, teacher and academic affairs director at the 7-decade-old school.

In the U.S., being born there makes one an American. In Japan, citizenship must be acquired for immigrants through a government system. Some have complained the process forces people to give up their loyalties to the cultures of their origin.

Many Koreans seek to avoid hassles by taking on Japanese names and blending in. But others like Myoung-joo Boo, a 45-year-old actor, prefer to embrace their ethnic heritage, although he stresses he never tries to get into an argument on cultural pride.

"People who don't like Koreans don't have to come near me. And I will live with those who don't care about such things," said Boo, a graduate of the North Korean schools.

"In America, people who may have been historically forcibly brought in see themselves as American. But for Koreans, I am born in Japan, but I see myself as Korean," Boo said.

World

UK defense secretary resigns amid allegations about behavior

LONDON (AP)—Britain's defense minister resigned Wednesday after allegations emerged about inappropriate sexual behavior—the latest twist in a growing scandal over harassment and abuse in the country's corridors of power.

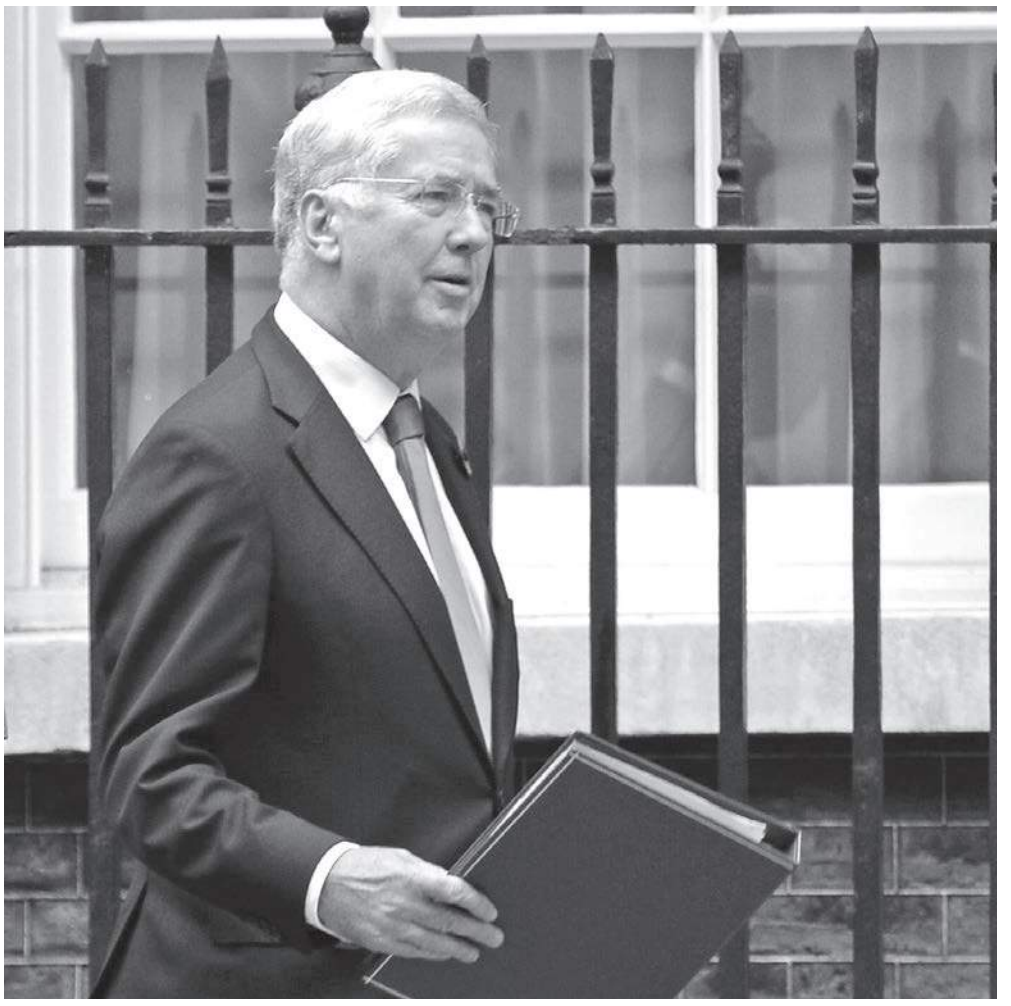
Michael Fallon said in a resignation letter to Prime Minister Theresa May that his "previous conduct ... may have fallen below the high standards that we require of the Armed Forces."

Fallon, 65, was first elected to Parliament in 1983 and has been defense secretary since 2014.

A newspaper reported last weekend that Fallon had repeatedly touched a journalist's knee at a function in 2002. The journalist in question said she had shrugged off the incident, but reports suggested that other allegations about Fallon might soon emerge.

Accepting his resignation, May said she appreciated "the characteristically serious manner in which you have considered your position."

The scandal surrounding Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein has emboldened people in many industries to speak up about sexual harassment or attacks at the hands of powerful individuals who control their future job prospects.



AP
Britain's Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon leaving Downing Street in London, following a Cabinet meeting, Tuesday Oct. 31, 2017.

In Britain, it has produced soul-searching about the growing number of reports of sexual harassment and abuse in politics. May has called a meeting of party leaders to discuss how to deal with the topic, amid a growing roster of allegations about inappropriate behavior by politicians and parliamentary staff.

May has also ordered an investigation into claims another senior minister made inappropriate advances to a Conservative activist.

Writer and academic Kate Maltby says Cabinet minister Damian Green "fleetingly" touched her knee in 2015 and later sent her a "suggestive" text message after she was pictured wearing a corset in a newspaper.

Maltby wrote in the Times of London newspaper that Green "offered me career advice and in the same breath made it clear he was sexually interested."

"It was not acceptable to me at the time and it should not be acceptable behavior in Westminster in the future," Maltby wrote.

Green, Britain's de facto deputy prime minister, denied making sexual advances and called the allegations "a complete shock" and "deeply hurtful."

May's office said the prime minister had asked the head of the civil service to "establish the facts and report back as soon as possible."

Meanwhile, an opposition Labour Party activist said the party discouraged her from reporting that she was raped at a Labour conference in 2011 when she was 19. Bex Bailey said a party official told her "that if I did, it might damage me."

The party said it was investigating the report.

Labour lawmaker Lisa Nandy said Wednesday that she had raised concerns three years ago that party whips kept claims of sexual abuse as ammunition to control lawmakers, rather than dealing with the allegations.

May said the whips should make it clear that allegations of crimes should be reported to police.

She has asked other party leaders to meet her next week to discuss setting up an independent grievance procedure for people working in Parliament.

"We have a duty to ensure that everyone coming here to contribute to public life is treated with respect," she told lawmakers during her weekly session in the House of Commons.

US votes against UN resolution condemning US embargo on Cuba

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United States voted against a U.N. resolution condemning America's economic embargo against Cuba on Wednesday, reversing last year's abstention by the Obama administration and reflecting worsening U.S.-Cuban relations.

Israel joined the United States in opposing the embargo resolution, which was overwhelmingly approved in the 193-member General Assembly by a vote of 191-2. That was the same vote as in 2015.

Last October, then-President Barack Obama's administration abstained for the first time in 25 years on the embargo resolution as the U.S. leader and Cuban President Raul Castro moved forward with the historic warming of relations between the two countries.

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba were broken in 1961 after Fidel Castro took power and installed a communist government. Raul Castro, his brother, and Obama officially restored relations in July 2016.

Before Wednesday's vote, U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley told the assembly: "Today, the crime is the Cuban government's continued repression of its people and failure to meet even the minimum requirements of a free and just society."

The United States will continue to oppose the embargo resolution "as long as the Cuban people continue to be deprived of their human rights and fundamental freedoms," she said.

Haley said no doubt some people won't understand why President Donald Trump's administration is "energetically" opposing Obama's position.

She said the American people chose a new president, and the United States will vote against any resolution calling for the lifting of the embargo "as long as the proceeds from trade with Cuba go to prop up the dictatorial regime responsible for denying those (human) rights."

"The United States does not fear isolation in this chamber or anywhere else. Our principles are not up for a vote," she said. "We will stand for respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms that the member states of this body have pledged to protect, even if we have to stand alone."

Cuba's Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez condemned the "disrespectful sense of interfering statements," by Haley, saying "she is reflecting the tenor of U.S. politics today."

"She speaks on behalf of the leader and empire—an imperialist power behind the majority of those wars being waged today on our globe, which take the lives of innocent people," he said.

During the last few weeks, Rodriguez said, Trump on four occasions has reiterated that his administration will not lift economic sanctions on Cuba unless Cuba introduces changes "in its domestic order."

"Today, I say that Cuba will never agree to conditions or anything being imposed on this order," Rodriguez said. "We remind the president and his ambassador that this focus ... has never worked and neither will it ever work in the future. He will be one more president implementing a policy that means a return to the past."

The vote came during an ongoing crisis over U.S. government workers in Havana harmed by invisible "health attacks" which has created a new rift between the U.S. and Cuba and put the restoration of ties in jeopardy.

Last Friday, Cuba presented its most detailed defense to date against U.S. accusations that American diplomats in Havana were subjected to mysterious sonic attacks that left them with a variety of ailments including headaches, hearing problems and concussions.

The U.S. has not accused Cuba of carrying out the attacks, but says that Cuba has not met its obligation to protect diplomats on its territory. Cuba alleged a lack of evidence for the U.S. accusations, arguing that the U.S. had not given Cuba or the public access to the testimony or medical records of U.S. officials who reported attacks, despite three visits to Cuba by U.S. investigators.

Rodriguez went further on Wednesday, saying "they lie when they talk of attacks or incidents."

Putin, in Iran for talks, offers support for nuclear deal

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday strongly backed Iran and its nuclear deal with world powers, saying Moscow opposed "any unilateral change" to the accord after U.S. President Donald Trump refused to re-certify it.

Putin made the comments on a one-day trip to Tehran for trilateral talks between Azerbaijan, Iran and Russia, a meeting largely focused on improving road and rail links to the neighboring countries on the Caspian Sea.

However, the nuclear deal loomed large as Putin met with both Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, who easily won re-election this year after securing the atomic deal, and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the final say on all state matters.

"We oppose any unilateral change in the multilateral nuclear deal," Putin said while meeting Khamenei, according to a statement from the supreme leader's office. "We oppose linking Iran's nuclear program with other issues including defensive issues."

Moscow has stood by Tehran while Trump has refused to re-certify the nuclear deal between Iran and world powers, including Russia. The other parties to the accord—Britain, China, France, Germany and the European Union—have also urged Trump to stay in the deal.

The U.S. Congress now will make a decision regarding the 2015 nuclear deal, in which Iran agreed to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. In recent days, lawmakers have targeted Iran with new sanctions over its ballistic missile program, which wasn't included in the deal but which American officials say violates the spirit of the accord.

Khamenei praised Putin's "strong" character.

"Because of this reason, it is possible to have logical dialogue and cooperation with Russia as a big power about big jobs that require determination and effort," the supreme leader said.

Russia and Iran have a complicated history. Many still remember how Russia, alongside Britain, invaded and occupied Iran during World War II to secure oil fields and Allied supply lines.

But while Britain withdrew, Russia refused to leave, sparking the first international rebuke by the nascent U.N. Security Council in 1946. During the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, Iran allowed refugees into the country and backed mujahedeen rebel fighters—as did the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

Focus

Acquaintances say bike path suspect was argumentative, angry

NEW YORK (AP)—Some saw him as disagreeable and argumentative, others as quiet and prayerful. He was said to be hardworking but also seemed to simmer with disillusionment over financial and career setbacks.

As Sayfullo Saipov lay in a hospital bed Wednesday, police tried to piece together the life of the 29-year-old immigrant accused of driving a truck onto a New York bike path and killing eight people. A fuller portrait began to emerge of the suspect who was described by the president as an animal and by the mayor as a coward.

Saipov legally emigrated from Uzbekistan, a former Soviet republic and predominantly Sunni Muslim nation north of Afghanistan that is estimated to have produced hundreds if not thousands of supporters for the Islamic State group and other extremist organizations in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Notes found at the crime scene indicate Saipov acted in the name of IS, authorities said.

After arriving in the U.S. in 2010, Saipov made his first home in Ohio, acquaintances said.

Another Uzbek immigrant, Mirrakhmat Muminov, came to know Saipov and said he was most struck by how provocative he was.

Sometimes, he would stir quarrels over weighty topics such as politics or the Mideast peace process, Muminov said, but he could also grow angry over something as simple as a picnic.

"He had the habit of disagreeing with everybody," said Muminov, a 38-year-old from Stow, Ohio, who works as a truck driver, just as Saipov once did.

Muminov described Saipov as "aggressive" and suspected he held radical views, though Muminov never heard him speak of the Islamic State group.

"He was not happy with his life," Muminov said.

According to some media reports, Saipov lived for a time in Kyrgyzstan, another former Soviet nation that borders Uzbekistan and has a sizable ethnic Uzbek minority.

In June of 2010, the same year Saipov came to the U.S., the area near the city of Osh in southern Kyrgyzstan where he reportedly lived saw violence between ethnic Kyrgyz and Uzbeks that left at least 470 people dead. Nearly three-quarters of them were ethnic Uzbeks. The violence prompted an exodus of Uzbeks from Kyrgyzstan.

A marriage license filed in Summit County, Ohio, shows Saipov married a woman named Nozima Odilova on April 12, 2013. But the couple eventually left Ohio for Florida. Saipov had a driver's license from that state, and some records showed an address for him at a Tampa apartment complex.

FBI agents interviewed residents at the complex Tuesday, but some who lived there said they knew nothing of their former neighbor. Records show he worked as a commercial truck driver and formed a pair of trucking businesses that could have kept him on the road for long stretches.

He had a handful of driving violations and was arrested last year in Missouri after failing to appear in court on a citation for brake defects. Jail records indicate he was detained for less than an hour.

AP

In this courtroom drawing, defendant Sayfullo Saipov, right, addresses the court during his arraignment on federal terrorism charges, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, at Manhattan Federal Court in New York. The Uzbek immigrant is charged for the Oct. 31, truck rampage on a New York City bike path that left eight people dead. Saipov said he was spurred to attack by the Islamic State group's online calls to action and picked Halloween because he knew more people would be out on the streets. Seated at the defense table federal defenders David Patton and Sylvie Levine.

Saipov and his family moved from Florida to New Jersey in June, according to a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

On Wednesday, FBI agents removed evidence bags from an apartment building in Paterson, just northwest of New York City.

Maria Rivera, who lives down the street, said she sometimes saw Saipov talking on his phone or with two or three other men in the neighborhood. A month ago, when she saw a little girl walking down the street, she asked the child who her mother was.

She pointed in the direction of Saipov's home, Rivera said.

"He came out, grabbed the baby and he didn't say nothing to me," she said.

Birth records in Ohio show that Saipov and his wife had two daughters, ages 2 and 4. A neighbor in New Jersey said they had a third child, a boy, earlier this year.

Another neighbor of Saipov, who is Rivera's son, 23-year-old Carlos Batista, said he saw Saipov and two friends come and go several times in the past three weeks in the same model Home Depot pickup used in the attack. He also recalled a recent incident in which Saipov played the role of peacemaker.

Two of Saipov's friends were angry Batista was riding a dirt bike up and down the street and ordered him to stop. Tempers flared and words escalated until Saipov came outside.

He "basically was the peacemaker," Batista said. "He calmed everything down."

Muminov said he last heard from Saipov a few months ago when he called asking for advice on insurance. He said he heard from friends of Saipov that his truck engine blew a few months ago.

"He lost his job," Muminov said. "When someone loses their truck, they lose their life."

That may have led Saipov to drive for Uber, which confirmed he had passed a background check and driven for six months, making more than 1,400 trips.

Authorities said Saipov never was the subject of an investigation by the New York Police Department's intelligence bureau or the FBI, but they were looking at how he might be connected to the subjects of other investigations. Saipov had been planning his attack for weeks, police said.

After plowing through the bike path and into a school bus, authorities said, he emerged from the vehicle, brandishing air guns and yelling "God is great!" in Arabic.

He remained at Bellevue Hospital, where he was recovering from being shot by the police officer who stopped the attack.

Late in the afternoon, he was taken to a federal court hearing after a terrorism charge and other counts were filed against him by prosecutors, who said he was "consumed by hate and a twisted ideology."

Saipov appeared in a wheelchair, with his hands and feet shackled. He didn't enter a plea or seek bail.

As he lay in bed at the hospital, authorities said, he asked about displaying a flag for the Islamic State group in his room. He said, according to court documents, that he felt good about what he had done.

Officer who halted truck rampage hailed as a modest hero

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City police officer Ryan Nash was responding to a call about an emotionally disturbed person at a high school not far from the World Trade Center when someone reported an accident on the bike path outside.

Nash and his partner, John Hasiotis, raced to a gruesome sight: A man in a truck had slammed into a school bus after mowing down people in a bike lane. He was waving guns around and yelling. Nash, 28, told him to drop the weapons and then fired, striking the man once.

Nash stopped the attacker, Sayfullo Saipov, in his tracks, but the officer is too modest to admit he's a hero, officials said.

"He was a hero," said Gov. Andre Cuomo. "And the NYPD is not just the leadership, it's the men and women who are out there every day who are on the first line, and I think officer Nash really showed how important they are and how talented and how brave."

Saipov was actually wielding a pellet gun and a paintball gun, authorities said, but they looked like real guns. Witnesses reported the 29-year-old hollered "Allahu akbar," or "God is great!" in Arabic.

Hasiotis and two other officers, Michael Welsome and Kevin McGinn, secured the area, took witness statements and grabbed the guns. And they showed restraint by not firing their weapons into the crowded area, police said.

"While we mourn the terrible loss of life and the injuries to innocent people, we are proud of, and grateful for, the quick action of a team of police officers who responded to cries for help and took charge of a chaotic and dangerous situation," said police union president Patrick Lynch.

Mayor Bill de Blasio and other civic leaders commended Nash for his cool head—and said he was a humble officer who felt like he was just doing his job.

"What he did was extraordinary. It gave people such faith and such appreciation in our police force," de Blasio said.

Nash was taken to the hospital for a ringing in the ears and met with Police Commissioner James O'Neill.

"In a typical fashion of an NYPD cop, he thinks what he did was not an act of heroism," O'Neill said. "He thinks it's ... why he joined the police department."

Nash appeared outside a police stationhouse in suburban Long Island a few miles from his home Wednesday and said he appreciates the praise but he was just doing his job.

"I appreciate the public recognition of the actions of myself and my fellow officers yesterday, although I feel we were just doing our job like thousands of officers do every day," he said.

Nash added that "due to the nature of the pending criminal case I cannot make any further public statements about the incident at this time."

No one answered the door earlier Wednesday at Nash's two-story yellow Cape Cod-style home. Neighbors said he moved in sometime in the past year and largely kept to himself, though he often jogged outside.

"What he did was amazing, you know, helping to keep anybody else from being killed," said neighbor Dino Cortina. "It's just nice to know, nice guy."

Cortina's wife, Margie, said Nash kept to himself but was friendly.

"We feel safer now knowing that there's a hero, you know, in our neighborhood."

In Tuesday's attack, Saipov drove his speeding truck for nearly a mile along the bike path, running down cyclists and pedestrians, then crashed into a school bus, authorities said. Eight people were killed and 12 injured.

O'Neill praised the police response to the attack in a departmentwide email. He said the goal of terrorists is to promote hate and divisiveness.

"But what we've seen here, instead, is that these acts simply strengthen the resolve of New Yorkers and, in fact, all Americans," O'Neill said.

Science & Technology

Govt won't pursue talking car mandate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration has quietly set aside plans to require new cars to be able to wirelessly talk to each other, auto industry officials said, jeopardizing one of the most promising technologies for preventing traffic deaths.

The Obama administration proposed last December that all new cars and light trucks come equipped with technology known as vehicle-to-vehicle communications, or V2V. It would enable vehicles to transmit their location, speed, direction and other information 10 times per second. That lets cars detect, for example, when another vehicle is about to run a red light or coming around a blind turn in time to prevent a crash.

The administration has decided not to pursue a final V2V mandate, said two auto industry officials who have spoken with White House and Transportation Department officials and two others whose organizations have spoken to the administration. The industry officials spoke on condition of anonymity so as not to jeopardize their relations with the administration.

In this July 20, 2015 file photo, a cyclist crosses in front of a vehicle as part of a demonstration at Mcity on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor, Mich. AP

The White House declined to comment, but the proposal has been dropped from the White House Office of Management and Budget's list of regulations actively under consideration and instead has been relegated to its long-term agenda.

Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao's office forwarded a statement from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration which said the agency is still reviewing more than 460 comments on the proposed mandate before deciding its next step and that no final decision has been made. Industry officials said decisions on the matter are being made at higher levels of the administration.

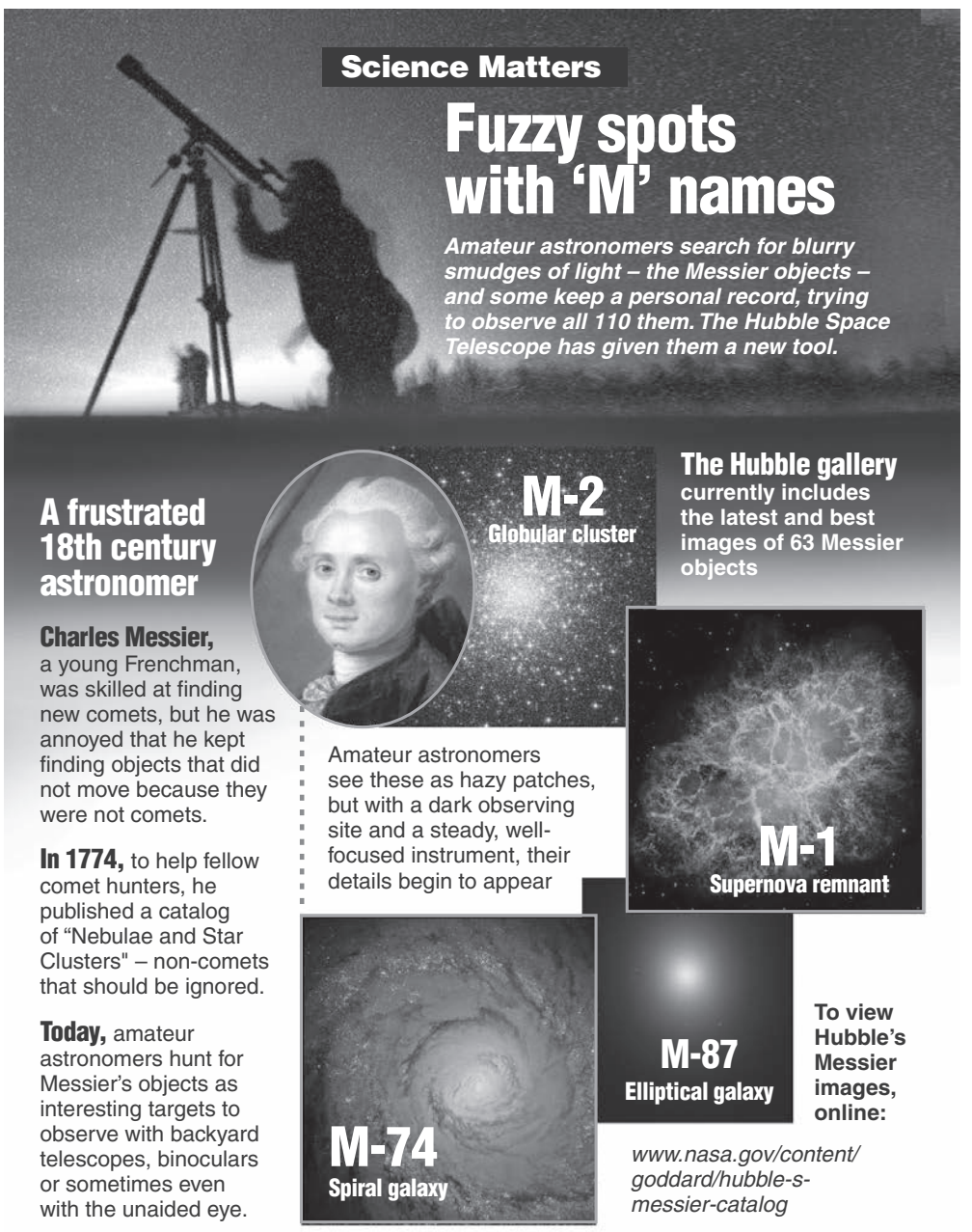
Administration officials indicated their decision was based on several factors, including general wariness of imposing costly mandates on industry, even though most automakers support requiring V2V, industry officials said. President Donald Trump has made reducing government regulations, which he sees as a drain on the economy, a guiding principle of his administration.

The Transportation Department estimates the technology has the potential to prevent or reduce the severity of up to 80 percent of collisions that don't involve alcohol or drugs. V2V was also expected to provide an extra layer of safety for self-driving cars since it can detect even vehicles hidden by buildings or beyond the range of the sensors and cameras of autonomous vehicles. And it was expected to ease traffic congestion since vehicles could communicate with traffic signals, turning them green to prevent needless waiting, save fuel and reduce emissions.

V2V is one of the "most important tools" for reducing traffic fatalities, but the Trump administration "is locking it in the trunk if they're not going to put out the mandate," said Deborah Hersman, president of the National Safety Council, a congressionally chartered advocacy group. "The only way you're going to get it adopted and deployed in a widespread manner is by having a mandate."

The Obama administration shares some of the blame because it waited years to propose the mandate, she said.

Traffic fatalities have surged over the past two years to 37,461 deaths in 2016, up nearly 5,000 deaths from 2014. It's the largest two-year increase since the early 1960s.


Science Matters
Fuzzy spots with 'M' names
Amateur astronomers search for blurry smudges of light – the Messier objects – and some keep a personal record, trying to observe all 110 them. The Hubble Space Telescope has given them a new tool.
A frustrated 18th century astronomer
Charles Messier, a young Frenchman, was skilled at finding new comets, but he was annoyed that he kept finding objects that did not move because they were not comets.
In 1774, to help fellow comet hunters, he published a catalog of "Nebulae and Star Clusters" – non-comets that should be ignored.
Today, amateur astronomers hunt for Messier's objects as interesting targets to observe with backyard telescopes, binoculars or sometimes even with the unaided eye.
M-2
Globular cluster
The Hubble gallery currently includes the latest and best images of 63 Messier objects
Amateur astronomers see these as hazy patches, but with a dark observing site and a steady, well-focused instrument, their details begin to appear
M-1
Supernova remnant
M-87
Elliptical galaxy
M-74
Spiral galaxy
To view Hubble's Messier images, online:
www.nasa.gov/content/goddard/hubble-s-messier-catalog

Source: NASA; TNS Photos

Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

iPhone's iOS 11 won't run older apps

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Tribune News Service

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Q: I've been using an app called "Minimalist To Do List" on my iPhone 6 for about four years and have put a lot of pretty valuable information in it. When I recently updated the phone to the new iOS 11 operating system, I discovered I had a few apps, including that one, that wouldn't work. Instead, I got a message that said that Minimalist To Do List "may slow down your iPhone. The developer of this app needs to update it to improve its compatibility." But I haven't been able to contact the developer, and I got no help from Apple or Verizon Wireless. Is there a way I can get my data back?

A: No, the data is gone because your app won't run on iOS 11.

You and others who upgraded their phones to the newest iPhone operating system have permanently lost the use of some older iPhone apps that use what's called "32-bit computer architecture." They won't run on iOS 11 and Apple won't let you to "downgrade" your phone to an older version of iOS.

Unless you follow Apple's announcements closely, you could easily have missed its disclosure earlier this year that iOS 11 would abandon the use of 32-bit apps. But the impact was significant. When iOS 11 was introduced in September, the Apple App Store still contained more than 180,000 apps that were incompatible with it, including "Minimalist To Do List."

Minimalist" was created for iOS 4 and was last updated in 2012. The most recent information on its developer's website is two years old, which probably means the app will never be updated.

Technology and marketing influence Apple's changes.

Prior to the iPhone 5s, the iPhone used a 32-bit processor chip that stored data using memory addresses that were 32 characters. But it became clear that for iPhones to compute faster and store more data, the 32-bit processor chips and their software had to be replaced by 64-bit versions. When a 64-bit processor chip is paired with 64-bit software (memory addresses are 64 characters), it can run twice as fast and use 256 times more memory than a 32-bit chip.

As a result, Apple in 2013 began putting 64-bit chips in the iPhone 5s and its successors. But, to avoid making the thousands of existing 32-bit apps in the App Store instantly obsolete, Apple "grandfathered them in" by making its future operating systems run both old 32-bit and new 64-bit apps.

But Apple clearly didn't want to support the aging 32-bit technology forever and began urging developers to rewrite their apps in 64-bit architecture. As a result, most of the App Store's 2.2 million apps are now 64-bit software. That made it safe for Apple to change its marketing strategy and end the use of old 32-bit apps with the introduction of iOS 11.

Apple has not yet removed all of the remaining 32-bit apps from its App Store. As of last week, the "Minimalist To Do List" was still there. But users of iOS 11 need not worry that they will get an unworkable app. The App store only shows you apps that will work on your version of iOS.

Those who haven't upgraded to iOS 11 yet can check to see which of their apps will be affected and choose not to upgrade if a much-loved app will no longer work. Go to Settings, choose General, select About and then click Applications.

Off The Wall

Despite war, hurricane, man finally sees brother's wedding

PENNDEL, Pa. (AP)—A war kept Wayne Wood's brother from attending his first wedding, and a hurricane briefly derailed the secret plans for his second, but the 84-year-old has finally said "I do" again—this time with his unsuspecting brother serving as best man.

The brother, Gordon Wood, told the Bucks County Courier Times he had been hoping for a while that Wayne Wood would marry his girlfriend of 2 1/2 years, Joyce Mary Garren. He had been unable to attend his younger brother's first wedding because he was serving on a submarine in the Korean War.

Gordon Wood, 86, had pushed repeatedly for an answer on the possibility of nuptials.

"I kept asking him," he said.

But Wayne Wood stayed tight-lipped, replying only, "Soon."

The younger Wood and his new wife live in Lake Placid, Florida, but they devised a ruse to marry in Pennsylvania while visiting the elder Wood and his wife, Joan Wood. With the help of local court clerks, the ceremony was scheduled for September. Then Hurricane Irma hit, and the couple were forced to stay home and deal with the aftermath.

"We were all worried about them," judicial clerk Mary Ann Rink said.

The pair finally arrived for their visit last week. On Monday, the bride-to-be said she needed to pick something up at a Bucks County courthouse. Then, Wayne Wood stunned his older brother by asking him to stand by his side for an on-the-spot wedding.

"I just can't believe it," Gordon Wood said. "I think it is fantastic."

Decades after missing out on the first wedding, he teared up as he noted, "I have never seen him happier."

CONJOINED TWINS

A pair of conjoined twin sisters, born Saturday, lie in an incubator at Shifa hospital, in Gaza City, Monday, Oct. 23, 2017. Dr. Allam Abu Hamda, a neonatal specialist at Gaza's Shifa hospital, said Monday that the girls are in "stable" condition and doctors have begun feeding them, but they will need treatment abroad. AP

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fishy story: Headless 400-pound tuna found in woods

GLOUCESTER, Mass. (AP)—Spotting a 400-pound tuna in the Massachusetts seaport of Gloucester, known as America's oldest seaport, is not unusual. But finding a headless tuna in the woods is a bit odd. State Environmental Police and federal fisheries regulators are trying to figure out who dumped the headless fish, which had to be hauled out of the trees by a tow truck. Authorities won't say exactly when the tuna was found or who tipped them off. But Ally Rogers, a spokeswoman for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement, tells the Gloucester Daily Times that the fish was illegally harvested. The tuna season runs from early June to November. Maj. Patrick Moran of the Environmental Police says he's never before had to investigate a tuna in the woods.

Frankenstein baby born at Florida hospital on Halloween

WINTER PARK, Fla. (AP)—A Florida couple got an extra treat on Halloween—a baby Frankenstein. Make that Oskar Gary Frankenstein, who made his entrance into the world four days late and after 14 hours of labor on Tuesday at Winter Park Memorial Hospital. Parents Kyle and Jessica Frankenstein tell news outlets that Baby Frankenstein weighed in at 6 pounds (3 kilograms), 9 ounces (255 grams) and is 20 inches (50 centimeters) long. The baby's grandmother Jennifer Frankenstein tells WKMG the family is "super excited." She said Oskar is her first grandchild and the Frankenstein family's first baby born on Halloween, although she does have a 13-year-old daughter who shares the same birthday as "Frankenstein" author Mary ShelleyWinter Park is near Orlando in central Florida.

Man tries to open beer with pepper spray; it doesn't go well

BERLIN (AP)—It's legal to drink beer in German movie theaters—but it's probably not a good idea to try to open your beer bottle with a pepper spray canister. However, that's exactly what a thirsty moviegoer tried doing at a cinema Monday night in the northwestern German town of Osnabrueck. Instead of opening his beer, the 29-year-old man broke his pepper spray container and some 200 people had to quickly leave the theater in tears. The cinema's manager told the German news agency dpa on Wednesday that it was "chaos." Still, he kept his head, calling police, offering beverages to moviegoers and opening the windows. He says the movie was restarted after 30 minutes. Police say so far no moviegoers have complained about eye or breathing problems.

Man with same name as ex-Trump aide sets Twitter straight

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Michigan financial adviser who shares the same name as a former member of President Donald Trump's campaign team caught up in investigation of Russian meddling in the 2016 elections has been trying to sort out a case of mistaken identity. George Papadopoulos identifies himself on Twitter as a certified public accountant who offers financial advice. On Monday, it was revealed that a former foreign policy adviser to Trump also named George Papadopoulos pleaded guilty to lying to FBI agents. Since then, the accountant has been busy on Twitter adamantly stating that he is not the same person and has no association with Trump. He has also brought a sense of humor to the situation, tweeting Tuesday : "Buy low sell high = Never lie to FBI"

Woman admits posing as lawyer, bilking NY prison inmates

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Officials say a 48-year-old woman has admitted to passing herself off as a lawyer while bilking hundreds of New York prison inmates out of more than $20,000. The state Attorney General's Office says Antonia Barrone pleaded guilty to a scheme to defraud and will serve 16 months to 3 years in state prison. She has also been ordered to pay nearly $270,000 in restitution and fines. Officials say Barrone created a fake persona as a parole attorney named Mario Vredenburg and swindled $23,000 from 400 state inmates and their families through a business called the NYS Prisoner Assistance Center, which purported to specialize in parole cases. Authorities say Barrone tricked customers into believing the office was staffed with attorneys. Last year, Barrone crashed her car at 90 mph while trying to elude police on an Albany highway.

Bobcat in bathroom of Oklahoma newspaper startles publisher

SAPULPA, Okla. (AP)—A small-town Oklahoma newspaper publisher found a startling front-page story practically in his newsroom: There was a hissing bobcat in the bathroom. Sapulpa Herald publisher Darren Sumner says the wild animal jumped at him one recent morning as he was heading into the restroom at his office in Sapulpa, a Tulsa suburb. Sumner shut the door and trapped the adult male cat inside until police and a game warden arrived. Wildlife control workers captured the bobcat in a cage and released it in nearby Pawnee County. Neither Sumner nor the wild cat was injured in the confrontation. Sumner said the animal likely got into his building through an open door.

In Loving Memory

† Louise Carmina Sablan Concepcion

Born to Life: April 07, 1959 Called to Eternal Life: October 30, 2017

In her new life, she now joins her:

1st Husband: †Joseph R. Concepcion
Parents: †Ignacio & Maria M. Sablan
Parents-in-law: †Juan T. & Soledad R. Concepcion
†Pedro B. & Ana A. Magofna
Brothers: †Ernest M. Sablan
†Frederick M. Sablan
Sister-in-Law: †Lilian U. Concepcion
Brother-in-Law: †Herman S. Cruz
†Juan Wesley Torres
Stepson: †Paul Celis

Her memories will always live in the hearts of her:

Husband: **William Castro Ada**
Children: **Shannette** R. Sablan (Ayana Kai)
Naomi S. Ada
Frances T. & Francis Taimanao (Jasyleen & Jesse Arriola, John, Jolleen, Janika)
Keith C. & Marissa Ada (Chelsea, Sean Cody, Kassidy, Keitlyn, Chloe, Sadie, Maria, Juan, and Izabela)
Jo Anna C. Ada
Aileen A. & Jennis Lee Wright (Deandra, Jade, Simone, Marshall, Nia, and Tasi)

Children of Joseph R. Concepcion:
Marvin Concepcion
Kenneth Concepcion
Christina Horner

Reared Children:
Richard William C. Ada
Moeisha Eleanor F. Cruz

Brothers and Sisters:
Oscar & Marcia Sablan and children
Elizabeth C. Sablan and children
Eleanor S. Cruz and children
Jeannette & Eluterio Mesa and children
Esther S. & Michael Fleming and children
Felixberto & Cathy Sablan and children
Herbert & Kelly Sablan and children
Victoria S. & Brien Sers Nicholas and children
Elizabeth S. & James A. Ada and children
Agnes M. Sablan
Carlos & Michelle Sablan and children
April S. & Glenn Camacho and children

Brothers and Sister-in-Law:
William R. Concepcion
Barbara A. Torres & Cris Inos and children
Francisco C. Ada & Linda Koshiro and children

Caretaker: Elvie Beljamin

She will also be missed by her numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is being offered at San Vicente Church on the following Dates and Time:

October 31, 2017 – 6:00 PM
November 1, 2017 – 6:00 AM
November 2, 2017 – 6:00 PM
November 3, 2017 – 6:00 PM
November 4 – 5, 2017 – 5:30 PM
November 6, 2017 – 6:00 PM

Funeral Services will be on Tuesday, November 07, 2017. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Followed by Interment Service at Mount Carmel Cemetery where she will be laid to a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Life & Style

HULK'S BACK!

5 things to know about Mark Ruffalo's incredible return in 'Thor: Ragnarok'

By BRIAN TRUITT
USA TODAY

This image released by Marvel Studios shows Chris Hemsworth, left, and the Hulk in a scene from, "Thor: Ragnarok."

AP

No one has put their signature touch on the Avengers' rage monster more than Mark Ruffalo.

Following versions played by Eric Bana and Edward Norton, Ruffalo's incredible Hulk proved to be a fan favorite in the previous two Avengers movies. He returns for a third tour of "Hulk smash!" duty in Thor: Ragnarok (in theaters Thursday night).

"I love it and I enjoy it and I want to keep expanding it," says Ruffalo, who plays both the rampaging Hulk and his genius alter ego Bruce Banner.

Review: 'Thor: Ragnarok' is a fun romp that doesn't take itself seriously enough

More: Marvel heroines share their stories of sexism at 'Thor' premiere

Five things you need to know about the return of the Hulk:

1 The big green guy gets chatty this time.

Played by Ruffalo via motion capture, the Hulk has done a lot of grunting in the previous films but is downright talkative in Ragnarok. Thor (Chris Hemsworth) winds up in the alien world Sakaar and encounters his "friend from work," leading to an epic team-up to save Thor's home world of Asgard and some in-depth conversations along the way. "You get the character as he exists completely on his own," Ruffalo says. "That's something I've always been interested in: What is the Hulk like? What is he like as a roommate? How does he sleep, what does he eat, what does he do with his spare time?"

Earlier: Mark Ruffalo, Olivia Wilde joined Michael Moore in Trump protest

2 Bruce Banner is out of his comfort zone.

When Hulk turns back into Banner, the scientist learns he's lost two years (after flying off to nowhere at the end of 2015's Avengers: Age of Ultron) being Hulk the whole time. And he kinda freaks out, leading to a little existential crisis before getting his mojo back. It's the most layered Banner we've seen yet from Ruffalo, says Ragnarok director Taika Waititi. "He's never just dialing it in. He's constantly seeking out something in that dangerous creative zone."

3 Get ready for inward struggle.

Ragnarok digs into how Hulk and Banner are beings "fighting for the same body," Waititi says. "Parts of each other's personalities are coming out when one of them is dominant." The new Thor begins a three-movie character arc for the Hulk, carrying over into Avengers: Infinity War (May 4, 2018) and concluding with the fourth Avengers (May 3, 2019), exploring the balancing of those personalities within the bigger Marvel universe. "We're consciously heading in a direction where this separation that you're seeing right now is going to be dealt with and explored," Ruffalo says.

More: 10 holiday movies you must see, from 'Justice League' to the new 'Star Wars'

Also: Watch the exclusive first trailer for Chris Hemsworth's '12 Strong'

4 Thor and Hulk actually make good friends.

It's an unlikely pairing, sure, but "there's an oddball quality to it—Hulk's largeness and simplicity of thinking and Thor's otherworldly, god-like naivete," Ruffalo says. "And Banner and Thor together: The least superhero of them all with the most superhero of them all. It's so silly and goofy and fantastic, of course you're going to have high jinks."

5 But the craziest relationship is yet to come.

The two upcoming Avengers movies bring together various Marvel casts. "All of the universes coming together is just a sight gag within itself," Ruffalo says. One of the coolest new friendships, though, is Hulk becoming buddies with Rocket Raccoon (voiced by Bradley Cooper) from Guardians of the Galaxy. "It's a very funny relationship that the two of them have: First of all, it's the biggest superhero and the smallest. Just keeping them in a frame together is a feat and hilarious in itself."

Studio cuts ties to director Ratner after harassment report

NEW YORK (AP)—Hollywood's widening sexual harassment crisis has ensnared a prominent film director after six women—including actress Olivia Munn—accused Brett Ratner of sexual misconduct in a Los Angeles Times report on Wednesday.

Playboy Enterprises quickly distanced itself from Ratner as his attorney denied the allegations and late Wednesday Warner Bros. severed ties with the director, whose expired first-look deal with the studio will not be renewed, according to a person with knowledge of the decision who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

The reverberations also reached back 32 years as Oscar-winner Dustin Hoffman came forward to apologize for allegedly sexually harassing a 17-year-old intern in 1985.

Writer Anna Graham Hunter alleged in a Wednesday column in The Hollywood Reporter that the now 80-year-old actor groped her on the set of TV movie "Death of a Salesman" and "talked about sex to me and in front of me."

Hoffman issued a statement Wednesday, apologizing for "anything I might have done could have put her in an uncomfortable situation. I am sorry. It is not reflective of who I am."

Munn also complained about on-set behavior, alleging that while visiting the production of Ratner's "After the Sunset" in 2004, he masturbated in front of her in his trailer. Munn described the incident, without naming Ratner, in a 2010 collection of essays.

AP

In this April 26, 2017 file photo, Brett Ratner arrives at the Wolfgang Puck's Post-Hollywood Walk of Fame Star Ceremony Celebration in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Ratner's lawyer issued a statement Wednesday in which he said the director "vehemently denies the outrageous derogatory allegations" and is "confident that his name will be cleared once the current media frenzy dies down and people can objectively evaluate the nature of these claims."

Ratner directed the "Rush Hour" film series, "Red Dragon," ''X-Men: The Last Stand" and "Tower Heist."

According to a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity, Ratner will no longer occupy rented office space on the company's lot in Burbank, Calif. He has also been taken off of the adaptation of Donna Tartt's novel "The Goldfinch," which he had previously been set to produce.

Ratner's production company, RatPac Entertainment does have a financing deal with the studio that will continue until March 2018. The $450-million co-financing agreement was signed in 2013 and it remains unclear whether that will be renewed or not. It has encompassed much of Warner Bros.'s output, including "Wonder Woman," ''It" and "Justice League."

A Warner Bros. representative declined comment.

Tyrese blasts The Rock, cries over child custody dispute

NEW YORK (AP)—Tyrese detailed his issues with his "Fast & Furious" co-star Dwayne Johnson in multiple social media posts Wednesday and also said he's hurting because he has not seen his daughter in two months.

The singer-actor wrote on Instagram that if Johnson returns for the film's ninth installment, he won't come back. Tyrese also called Johnson a "clown," ''selfish" and "NOT the people's champ."

The Grammy-nominated performer called out Johnson in an Instagram post last month around the time The Hollywood Reporter said that a 2019 "Fast" film is intended to be a spinoff starring Johnson and Jason Statham.

Tyrese wrote on Wednesday that Johnson "was 'pitched' an idea privately and said yes to it without thinking of what I'm dealing with personally."

Representatives for Tyrese, Johnson and Universal Pictures didn't immediately return emails seeking comment. Tyrese has starred in five "Fast" films, while Johnson has starred in four.

Tyrese added that he is suffering at the moment because he last saw his 10-year-old daughter, Shayla, 60 days ago and that he's lost a lot of money due to legal fees. The singer is currently in a court battle with his ex-wife.

In a video posted Wednesday on his Facebook page, Tyrese cried and says "don't take my baby ... I'm not doing anything illegal."

"I'm at $13,000 a month. What more do you want from me?" he says.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Beyonce to play Nala in Disney's 'The Lion King'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Beyonce Knowles-Carter is joining the cast of "The Lion King" to voice to role of Nala. The Walt Disney Studios revealed the main cast for its upcoming live-action and CG adaptation of its 1994 animated classic Wednesday and confirmed the months old rumor that the pop superstar would be lending her voice to the project. Some had been previously announced for the film including Donald Glover as Simba and James Earl Jones as Mufasa. Other cast include Chiwetel Ejiofor as Scar, Alfre Woodard as Sarabi, Seth Rogen as Pumbaa, Billy Eichner as Timon and Keegan-Michael Key as a hyena. Jon Favreau, who brought Disney's CG and live-action adaptation of "The Jungle Book" to life, is set to direct. The film is slated for a July 19, 2019 theatrical release.

Hoffman apologizes for alleged harassment incident in 1985

NEW YORK (AP)—Dustin Hoffman is apologizing for the alleged sexual harassment of a 17-year-old intern in 1985, saying "it is not reflective of who I am." Writer Anna Graham Hunter alleges that the now 80-year-old actor groped her on the set of TV movie "Death of a Salesman" and "talked about sex to me and in front of me." She was left in tears, she wrote in a Wednesday column in The Hollywood Reporter. The Oscar-winner replied in a statement: "I have the utmost respect for women and feel terrible that anything I might have done could have put her in an uncomfortable situation. I am sorry. It is not reflective of who I am." Hoffman is the latest Hollywood name linked to a deluge of sexual harassment and assault allegations.

Jennifer Lopez and Alex Rodriguez discuss relationship

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jennifer Lopez says a fire alarm went off during her first date with Alex Rodriguez, literally. Lopez says she met the former baseball star for a dinner at a Bel Air, California, hotel that was cut short when a fire alarm rang and the couple had to evacuate the building. The couple has discussed their relationship in an interview with Vanity Fair. Rodriguez tells the magazine that he and Lopez are "very much twins" as Latinos from New York. For her part, Lopez says: "I understand him in a way that I don't think anyone else could, and he understands me in a way that no one else could ever." The couple appears on the cover of the magazine's December issue.

Girl sees red flags in her online friendship overseas

DEAR ABBY: I met this guy through a dating site. We began chatting and hit it off. We talk almost every day, and have Skyped a few times. We've been getting closer and closer. I really like him, and he has told me he feels the same.

The thing is, I'm not sure if he's telling me the truth. We live in different countries, and for all I know, he could have a girlfriend and be messing with me. I also don't know how to tell my parents. They don't support online dating, and they don't think I'm ready for a relationship. Please help me. I'm really confused.

CHATTING FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY

DEAR CHATTING: It is hard to keep emotions in check and think clearly when the adrenaline is pumping and our hearts are beating a mile a minute.

Because you are a minor, you have to respect your parents' decisions until such time as they agree you're ready for a relationship. A way to earn their trust and prove that you are mature enough would be to be honest about what you are doing and thinking, rather than sneak around hoping to slip something by them. When that time comes, finding someone closer to home, somebody you can introduce to them IN PERSON will make your life easier. In the meantime, concentrate on school and the opportunities it provides.

DEAR ABBY: A good friend of my husband's, "Eric," offered us a very generous wedding present. It was something we needed in our home, and he told us he would like to build it for us. Time went on, the project was delayed and my husband offered him numerous opportunities to back out. Each time the friend continued to support his offer. When it was finally finished, Eric admitted it had pushed him beyond capacity.

It has become obvious that Eric feels resentful, and now he's holding his generosity over my husband's head. He recently asked my husband to help with a project in his own home, and when my husband couldn't do it that week, the conflict came to a head.

My husband has reached out trying to explain that he wants to help his friend, but he needs to plan for it. We haven't heard back from Eric, and my husband is very sad. I'm good friends with Eric's wife, and this conflict has made it uncomfortable for us to see each other.

I want to mediate, but it's difficult to objectively step back and see where my husband has wronged and needs to make amends. I realize that nothing in life is black and white, and I need an unbiased perspective on how we can move forward.

GOOD FRIENDS

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR GOOD FRIENDS: I agree that few things in life are black and white, but after reading your letter, I can't see how Eric was wronged. Your husband didn't refuse to help with the project; he just said he couldn't do it unless it was scheduled in advance.

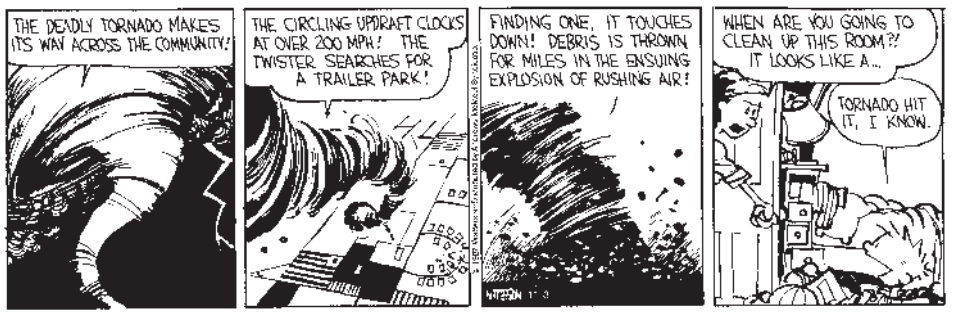
I don't know why Eric is nursing a grudge and neither do you. Not all friendships last forever. That's why, if you are smart, you will refrain from inserting yourself in the middle of this.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

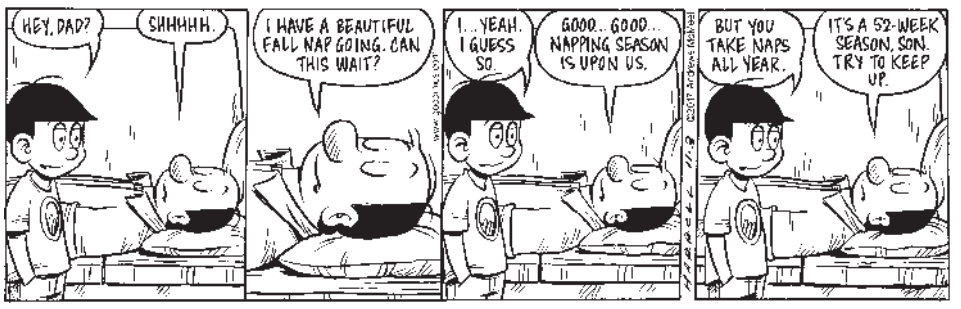

THE DEADLY TORNADO MAKES ITS WAY ACROSS THE COMMUNITY!
THE CIRCLING UPDRAFT CLOCKS AT OVER 200 MPH! THE TWISTER SEARCHES FOR A TRAILER PARK!
FINDING ONE, IT TOUCHES DOWN! DEBRIS IS THROWN FOR MILES IN THE ENSUING EXPLOSION OF RUSHING AIR!
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO CLEAN UP THIS ROOM?! IT LOOKS LIKE A...
TORNADO HIT IT, I KNOW.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

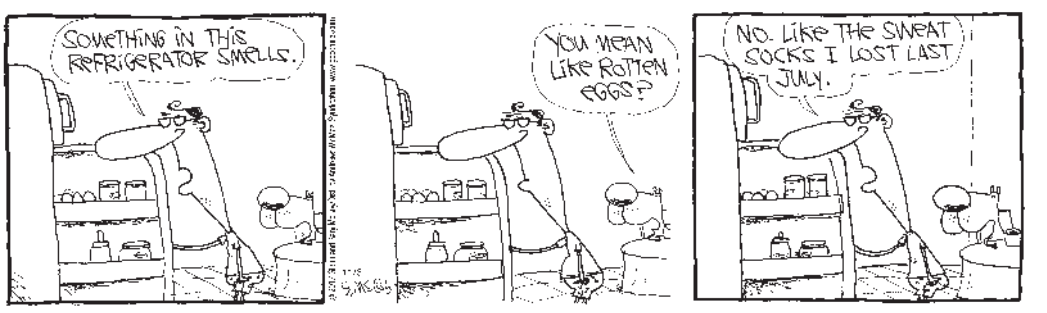
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HEY, DAD?
SHHHHH.
I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FALL NAP GOING. CAN THIS WAIT?
I...YEAH. I GUESS SO...
GOOD...GOOD... NAPPING SEASON IS UPON US.
BUT YOU TAKE NAPS ALL YEAR.
IT'S A 52-WEEK SEASON, SON. TRY TO KEEP UP.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

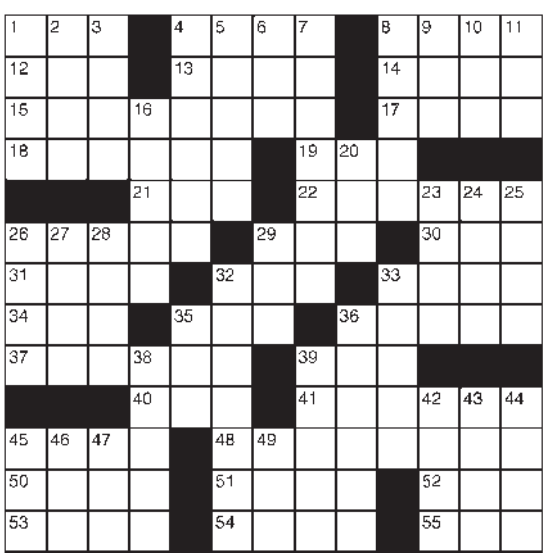
ACROSS
1 Glutton
4 Criticism
8 Stinging insect
12 Chemical suffix
13 Vega's constellation
14 Hotel chain
15 Bluegrass State
17 Loathsome
18 Old Testament book
19 Verb for you
21 Literary collection
22 Canine shelter
26 Michigan city
29 Vigor
30 Manmouse link
31 Sty cry
32 "It's c-c-cold!"
33 "— fan tutte"
34 "Top Hat" studio
35 Inlet
36 Bread maker
37 Jazzman Stan
39 Prohibit
40 Ovum
41 Suave
45 Cameo stone
48 Hyannis Port clan
50 Shoe fillers
51 Shoppe description
52 Narc's org.
53 Own (up)
54 Young foxes
55 Disco guy on "The Simpsons"

DOWN
1 Walk in the woods
2 Praiseful pieces
3 Bloke
4 Fully conversant
5 Stretchy fabric
6 Noah's craft
7 Olympian with a paddle
8 Made on a loom
9 Paris pal
10 NBC sketch show
11 Chart format
16 Express gratitude to
20 Gym unit
23 Cranny
24 Celtic tongue
25 Hideaway
26 Salad utensil
27 Enjoy
28 Privy to
29 Snoop
32 Thailand's capital
33 "Now it — told"
35 Cranberry territory
36 Noble's partner
38 Modern messages
39 Type of cake pan
42 Tosses in
43 Russian refusal
44 Birthright barterer
45 Not on
46 Formerly called
47 "Of course"
49 Yalie

Solution time: 25 mins.

T	O	M	B		G	U	M	P		B	A	S
I	D	E	A		A	M	A	S		A	C	H
N	E	W	S	F	L	A	S	H		C	H	O
S	A	S	S	F	S			A	S	K	F	W
			E	D		J	E	W	E	L		
F	A	S	T		H	O	P		Z	A	N	Y
A	L	L			A	W	E			S	E	E
S	I	A	M		C	L	E		I	H	A	T
			P	O	R	E	S		M	R		
R	C	D	E	O				S	A	U	D	S
A	A	A		P	E	T	T	Y	C	A	S	H
M	T	S		E	C	R	U		E	R	L	E
S	H	H		R	O	A	N		S	E	E	D

Yesterday's answer 11-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gemma Ward, 30; Colin Kaepernick, 30; Dolph Lundgren, 60; Roseanne, 65.

Happy Birthday: Sort through matters that have caused uncertainty or made you question the way you are living. Partnerships will improve if you address the way you feel about the past and how you believe that things can progress positively in the future. This is a year of opportunity, but first you need to take care of unfinished business. Assess and progress. Your numbers are 5, 11, 17, 26, 34, 39, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Overreacting to a situation you don't fully understand will put you in a poor position. Don't make abrupt changes or show inconsistency in the way you feel. Aim for stability and offer patience and understanding. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Emotions will be difficult to contain. Don't allow stubbornness to set in and make matters worse. Look for positive opportunities and do your best to fulfill whatever promises you've made. Aim to please, not to make others look bad. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Take precautions not to reveal personal information. Problems with peers will surface if you get involved in gossip or a situation that requires you to take sides. Stay neutral and avoid conflict that could cost you your reputation. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* An unusual opportunity to expand one of your interests or to have more social contact will develop. Share your thoughts and you'll get the backup you need to move forward with your plans. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Think before you react. Making a big deal out of something that isn't all that important will make you look bad. Problems at home and at work will surface if you are unreasonable or pushy. Concentrate on doing what's expected of you. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Changes at home must be well planned to avoid setbacks and complaints. Know exactly what you are trying to achieve in order to bypass criticism. Taking care of someone else's interests before your own will cause resentment. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Embrace change and be open to suggestions that will alter the way you live. A day trip, discussion or joint venture will bring you one step closer to the lifestyle you want to live. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Share your feelings and you will be able to bring about positive changes at home and within your relationships. Rely on your intuition when it comes to adapting your current lifestyle. Positive change will bring rewards. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Be careful what you promise to do for others. Taking on too much or giving someone the wrong impression can lead to an emotional outburst, putting you in an awkward position. Do your best to offer kindness and honesty. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Open up about the way you feel and what you want to see happen. Overreacting will not solve any problems, but honesty, open discussions and the willingness to compromise will. Do your best to get along. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Emotional tension will mount if you get into a deep discussion about money, children or joint ventures. Listen carefully to others and digest all the information you are given before you make a move. Don't overreact. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A financial opportunity is apparent. Negotiate, sign contracts or set the wheels in motion to reach a settlement. Make choices that are within your budget and won't jeopardize your home, family or lifestyle. Moderation is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, courageous and insightful. You are diverse and fascinating.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				1				
		4	9		2		1	
	9		4			6		
	3	1			6		5	
4								9
	8		7			1	6	
		8			4		2	
	7		6		5	8		
				9				

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	5	4	2	1	3	6	9	7
6	3	7	9	8	5	4	1	2
1	9	2	6	7	4	5	8	3
2	1	5	8	4	9	3	7	6
7	8	3	1	2	6	9	5	4
4	6	9	5	3	7	1	2	8
9	7	6	4	5	2	8	3	1
5	2	8	3	6	1	7	4	9
3	4	1	7	9	8	2	6	5

Difficulty level ★★★ 1 -

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MY PET HAS A GREAT VET Solution: 10 letters

E	X	A	M	S	T	Y	C	N	E	G	R	E	M	E
C	E	C	I	T	C	A	R	P	A	T	I	E	N	T
I	N	Y	R	E	S	E	I	R	U	J	N	I	S	S
V	O	E	G	L	U	F	R	E	E	H	C	S	E	L
R	I	T	A	O	Y	W	O	R	G	I	E	L	L	O
E	T	A	E	T	L	G	T	R	D	N	E	L	T	O
S	A	U	M	C	N	O	O	E	L	T	R	A	N	T
E	C	D	M	I	I	O	M	L	P	S	G	C	E	H
S	I	A	S	A	M	V	E	L	O	O	E	E	G	G
S	N	R	D	I	E	W	D	E	A	C	D	S	N	I
E	U	G	N	N	H	T	L	A	E	H	N	U	I	N
N	M	G	O	G	N	I	N	I	A	R	T	O	Y	R
L	M	O	B	I	L	E	T	S	E	N	O	H	A	E
L	O	T	S	N	O	I	T	N	E	V	E	R	P	V
I	C	A	R	I	N	G	Y	R	E	G	R	U	S	O

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Yesterday's Answer: Pretty in Pink

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Pacers hand Cavaliers fourth straight loss

AP

Indiana Pacers' Thaddeus Young (21) shoots over Cleveland Cavaliers' Jae Crowder (99) in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in Cleveland. The Pacers won, 124-107.

CLEVELAND (AP)—Thaddeus Young scored 26 points, Darren Collison had 25 and the Indiana Pacers sent the Cleveland Cavaliers to their fourth straight loss, 124-107 on Wednesday night.

LeBron James had 33 points and 11 assists, but it wasn't enough to keep Cleveland from losing for the fifth time in six games and falling to 3-5.

The Cavaliers held a lengthy meeting before Tuesday's practice to discuss their struggles, but the defending Eastern Conference champions have lost by a combined margin of 58 points in their losing streak.

James was upbeat about the meeting, but the Cavaliers still have issues to work out, especially on the defensive end. Cleveland led 69-68 in the third quarter, but Indiana hit four straight 3-pointers and built an eight-point lead. Indiana was 16 of 26 from 3-point range.

Victor Oladipo scored 23 points for the Pacers. Bojan Bogdanovic added 17, and Domantas Sabonis had 15 points and 12 rebounds.

Celtics 113, Kings 86

In Boston, Kyrie Irving and Jaylen Brown each scored 22 points in three quarters, and Bostoncoasted past skidding Sacramento for its sixth straight victory.

It was the Celtics' 11th consecutive win over the Kings in Boston, dating to their last loss on Jan. 19, 2007. Terry Rozier added 12 points, and Daniel Theis had 10 points with 10 rebounds.

Buddy Hield scored 17 points and Zach Randolph 16 for the Kings, who lost their sixth in a row—the last three by an average of 24 points.

Suns 122, Wizards 116

In Washington, T.J. Warren scored 28 of his career-high 40 points in the second half and Phoenix overcame a 22-point deficit to beat Washington.

Warren also had 10 rebounds and Devin Booker added 22 points to help the Suns improve to 4-1 under interim coach Jay Triano following an 0-3 start that led to Earl Watson's firing.

Bradley Beal scored a season-high 40 points for Washington, which built the lead to 22 by the second quarter but saw it completely disappear early in the fourth.

John Wall added 21 points, and Marcin Gortat had 13 rebounds for Washington.

Rockets 119, Knicks 97

In New York, James Harden had 31 points and nine assists, and Houston its 3-pointers falling again in a victory over New York.

Harden made six 3-pointers and the Rockets hit 19 to bounce back after two straight losses.

Ryan Anderson added 21 points for the Rockets. They won their eighth straight at Madison Square Garden, a streak that lasts so long that Mike D'Antoni was the Knicks' coach last time they beat Houston at home, back on Jan. 26, 2009.

Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 23 points for the Knicks, but Kristaps Porzingis was held to 19 as their three-game winning streak was snapped.

Hornets 126, Bucks 121

In Charlotte, Kemba Walker had 26 points, rookie Malik Monk had a huge fourth quarter and the Charlotte put the clamps on the NBA scoring leader Giannis Antetokounmpo to beat Milwaukee.

Walker was 8 for 12 from the field, including 3 for 4 from 3-point range, and 7 for 7 from the foul line to help Charlotte win its third straight game. Monk, the team's first-round draft pick from Kentucky, had 18 of his 25 points in the fourth.

Antetokounmpo came in averaging 33.7 points, but struggled with foul trouble and finished with a season-low 14 points along with 13 rebounds. He was limited to five points in the final three quarters.

Khris Middleton led Milwaukee with 43 points on 15-for-28 shooting.

Timberwolves 104, Pelicans 98

In New Orleans, Jimmy Butler hit a go-ahead 20-foot jumper as he was fouled with 34 seconds left to cap off a 23-point performance, and Minnesota beat New Orleans.

Andrew Wiggins scored 18 points for Minnesota, which has won three straight, but nearly blew a 12-point lead in the fourth quarter.

DeMarcus Cousins had 35 points and nine rebounds, and the Pelicans tied it at 96 when Cousins bounced a pass to Anthony Davis cutting down the lane for a two-handed dunk. Davis had 24 points and 10 rebounds.

Magic 101, Grizzlies 99

In Memphis, Evan Fournier scored 22 points, Aaron Gordon added 19 and Orlando held on to beat Memphis.

The Magic held the lead through much of the fourth quarter before a rally keyed by Tyreke Evans, who finished with 32 points for Memphis, tied it at 97 with 1:45 left on Marc Gasol's basket.

A 3-pointer from Gordon with 52 seconds remaining put the Magic ahead for good and Memphis missed long-range jumpers from Mario Chalmers and Dillon Brooks in the final 20 seconds.

Gasol had 22 points and nine rebounds.

Nuggets 129, Raptors 111

In Denver, Jamal Murray scored 16 of his 24 points in a decisive third-quarter spurt, and big man Nikola Jokic added 16 rebounds and 10 assists in Denver's victory over Toronto.

Paul Millsap added 20 points in his best offensive output since joining Denver. He signed a three-year, $90 million deal with Denver in July, but has recently struggled with his jumper.

Murray erupted in the third to help turn a 60-51 lead into a 36-point advantage over a matter of minutes. The 43 points in the third was the biggest quarter for the Nuggets this season.

Norman Powell led the Raptors with 14 points.

Heat 97, Bulls 91

In Miami, Goran Dragic scored 20 points, Tyler Johnson added 19 and Miami beat Chicago to snap a three-game slide.

Hassan Whiteside returned from a five-game absence with a bruised knee and had 13 points and 14 rebounds for the Heat.

Lauri Markkanen scored 25 points and Robin Lopez added 22 for the Bulls, who were 7 for 28 from 3-point range and got five of those makes in the final 2 minutes. Chicago fell to 1-5, matching its worst start since 2007-08.

76ers 119, Hawks 109

In Philadelphia, Ben Simmons had 19 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists, and Joel Embiid had 21 points and 12 rebounds to lead Philadelphia past Atlanta for its third straight victory.

Robert Covington scored 22 points to help the Sixers (4-4) reach .500 for the first time in four years. Dennis Schroder had 25 points for Atlanta.

Browns' Gordon reinstated by NFL on conditions

CLEVELAND (AP)—Josh Gordon's personal journey, from star to suspended outcast to sobriety, has reached a new dawning.

He's getting yet another chance to resurrect his football career and life.

Cleveland's gifted wide receiver has been conditionally reinstated by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, who met with the Browns former Pro Bowler on Wednesday in New York and is allowing him to return after a nearly three-year absence.

Gordon, who hasn't played since the 2014 season, can immediately join the team for meetings, engage in conditioning work and individual workouts. He has to comply with requirements set forth by Goodell and can begin practicing with the team on Nov. 20.

The 26-year-old will be eligible—at the team's discretion—to return to active status on Nov. 27 or remain on the commissioner's exempt list for an additional week before returning to active status.

"As emphasized at today's meeting, everyone—including Josh's teammates and coaches, the Browns' ownership and organization, the program professionals and all of us at the league office—want him to have every opportunity to resume his career and to be successful in the NFL," Goodell said. "Whether that happens, however, at the end of the day will depend on Josh.

"His commitment to sobriety and to reaching his goals in football and beyond will determine his success. It ultimately is up to Josh."

If he abides by Goodell's stipulations, Gordon could play in Cleveland's final five games this season, beginning with a Dec. 3 matchup against the Los Angeles Chargers.

Gordon has been in and out of rehab over the past year, and there are many fans who feel he has been given more breaks than he deserved. He had been suspended indefinitely since 2016.

Following his most recent suspension, the Browns initially distanced themselves from Gordon but have been supportive in recent months.

"We've been informed of the league's decision to reinstate Josh," said Sashi Brown, the team's executive vice president of football operations. "The personal well-being of all our players is of the utmost importance to us.

"We respect and commend Josh for taking the steps necessary to have the opportunity to return to the league. Josh will be in our building in the coming days and we look forward to having him back and sitting with him to discuss his future on our team."

The Browns have a bye this week and players are off until Monday, when they'll begin practicing for their Nov. 12 game at Detroit.

Gordon has missed Cleveland's past 41 games and hasn't played in the regular season since Dec. 21, 2014, following numerous violations of the league's substance abuse policy.

The Browns, who have started 0-8 this season and are 1-15 in two seasons under coach Hue Jackson, have control of his contract for two more seasons.

The team has a pressing need for a playmaker at wide receiver and Gordon can fill that void -- if he can stay clean. Gordon's size and speed set him apart from most receivers in the league and his return could provide a much-needed boost to a struggling team and fan base desperate to win.

Nadal secures No. 1 ranking after Paris Masters victory

AP

Rafael Nadal of Spain returns the ball to Hyeon Chung of South Korea during the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Bercy Arena in Paris, France, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017.

FRANCE (AP)—Rafael Nadal will finish the year as the top-ranked player for the fourth time.

The 31-year-old Spaniard assured himself the No. 1 ranking by beating Hyeon Chung 7-5, 6-3 Wednesday in the second round of the Paris Masters.

The 16-time Grand Slam winner had not finished the year at the top since 2013, with Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray doing so after that.

"One year ago, for sure I never dreamed about being No. 1 again at the end of the season," said Nadal, who missed large parts of 2016 because of a wrist injury. "It has been an amazing year."

Nadal's comeback from injury, loss of form and confidence, has been remarkable. He reached three Grand Slam finals this year, losing to Roger Federer at the Australian Open and winning a 10th French Open title before clinching the U.S. Open for the third time.

"It was impossible for me to think about [being No. 1] coming back from a tough period without playing, and with so many injuries in the last couple of years," said Nadal, who also finished as No. 1 in '08 and '10. "It means a lot. After almost 10 years since the first time."

Nadal is also the oldest, testimony to his relentless determination.

"It's about the passion for what you are doing. It's about the mentality of waking up every morning with the right motivation to go on court and improve something. That's the winning mentality, no?" he replied, when asked what drives him. "The passion to improve something and practice every day with the right attitude to try to make that happen ... not everybody is able to do it."

The only downside to his remarkable season has been always losing to Federer, who leads the ATP Tour with seven titles this year.

Federer has beaten Nadal four consecutive times—not dropping a set in three of them—and the 19-time Grand Slam champion was in outside contention for the No. 1 ranking before pulling out of Paris to focus on the season-ending ATP Finals in London next week.

Nadal was not at his best against the 21-year-old Chung, but was rarely tested.

Chung broke Nadal back in the ninth game of the first set and held for 5-5. But Nadal then broke Chung to love to clinch the first set.

Chung saved four break points in a long fourth game of the second set lasting 12 minutes, holding for 2-2. But Nadal accelerated away after that and served out the victory on his second match point when Chung hit a forehand long.

Nadal, who is tied for a record 30 Masters titles with Djokovic, has never won the tournament in Paris. He will next face Pablo Cuevas of Uruguay.

Earlier, Germany's Alexander Zverev was knocked out in the second round when he slumped to a 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 defeat against Dutch journeyman Robin Haase.

The fourth seed, who has already booked his ticket for the season-ending ATP World Tour finals in London, lost his way in the match after Haase leveled at one-set all.

The 20-year-old Zverev converted his only break point in the first set to take the lead while Haase wasted six break chances.

But Haase played a bit tighter in the second set and it was enough to unsettle Zverev, who never threatened again in an almost empty AccorHotels Arena.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga's hopes of taking part in the Tour finals were dashed when he lost 2-6, 7-6(4), 6-2 to fellow Frenchman Julien Benneteau.

ASTROS

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making it 5-0 in the second.

That was plenty for Houston manager A.J. Hinch. He pulled starter Lance McCullers Jr. soon after the curveballer crazily plunked his fourth batter of the game, and began a bullpen parade of four relievers that kept the lead as the Astros overcame a shaky postseason bullpen .

"I knew yesterday I didn't have much," McCullers said. "I knew I didn't have much to give other than to gut it out as long as I could."

Forever known for their space-age Astrodome, outlandish rainbow jerseys and a handful of heartbreaking playoff losses, these Astros will be remembered as champions, finally, in their 56th season.

The club that wears a star on its hat also filled out the Texas trophy case. Teams from the Lone Star State had won most every major crown—Super Bowl, NBA and NHL titles, championships in college football, and men's and women's hoops—except the World Series.

Built on the skills of homegrown All-Stars Carlos Correa, Dallas Keuchel and more, and boosted by the slick trade for Justin Verlander, general manager Jeff Luhnow completed the ascent that some predicted.

Famously, now, there was the Sports Illustrated cover in 2014—after Houston had lost more than 100 games for three straight years—that proclaimed: "Your 2017 World Series Champs" and featured a picture of Springer in a bright Astros jersey.

Houston won 101 times this year to take the AL West, then won Games 6 and 7 at home in the AL Championship Series. The Astros joined the 1985 Royals as the only clubs to win a pair of Game 7s in the same year.

For the Dodgers, the quest to win a Series for the first time since 1988 fell short. They led the majors with 104 wins and a $240 million payroll, yet it didn't pay off for part-owner Magic Johnson or manager Dave Roberts.

Longtime ace Clayton Kershaw provided four shutout innings of relief for Los Angeles, but it was too late. What the Dodgers really needed was a better starter than Darvish, someone more like the lefty who tossed out a ceremonial first ball: the great Sandy Koufax.

After Springer lined a leadoff double, Alex Bregman hit a bouncer that first baseman Cody Bellinger threw past Darvish for an error, allowing a run to score. Bregman aggressively stole third and scored on Altuve's grounder, and it was 2-0 after eight pitches.

A double by Marwin Gonzalez helped set up perhaps McCullers' biggest contribution, a slow grounder for his first pro RBI. Springer followed with a no-doubt, two-run drive into the left-center field bleachers.

That was the Series-most 25th homer in a Major League Baseball season that set a record for home runs. It was easily enough for the Astros to offset pinch-hitter Andre Ethier's RBI single in the Los Angeles sixth.

Only once have the Dodgers clinched a crown at home, that coming in 1963 when Koufax outpitched Yankees star Whitey Ford to finish a sweep. They've never won Game 7 of the Fall Classic at their own park, dating more than a century ago to their days on the streets of Brooklyn as the Trolley Dodgers.

As pockets of Houston fans got louder and louder in the later innings, the crowd at Dodger Stadium was left to repeat the sad, but hopeful cry that used to echo in Brooklyn: Wait till next year.

Just 106 days until pitchers and catchers report to spring training.

DODGERS'

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in the majors since the 1912 New York Giants.

Their lead reached a whopping 21 games on Aug. 23, and they survived an 11-game September skid to coast into October.

Boasting the majors' highest payroll of $240 million, Los Angeles rolled past Arizona in the NL Division Series and then knocked off the defending champion Cubs in six games in the NL Championship Series to reach their first World Series since 1988.

The Dodgers and Astros dueled to a 3-all tie through six thrilling games, with Los Angeles rallying to force the first World Series Game 7 in Dodger Stadium history.

But, a few miles from Hollywood, the script got flipped.

Manager Dave Roberts, so quick with his hook all season, left Darvish in to face hot-hitting George Springer in the second. Springer blasted a two-run homer—his record-tying fifth of the Series—and Houston extended its lead to 5-0.

Brandon Morrow got the last out of the inning before Kershaw came on in the third. The left-handed ace allowed two hits, struck out four and walked two, leaving fans to question why Roberts didn't start Kershaw on short rest in the first place. Or at least bring in Kershaw to face Springer in the second.

Especially since Darvish only managed five outs in losing Game 3 at Houston, when he also lasted just 1 2/3 innings. He's the second pitcher in World Series history with less than two innings pitched in two starts.

MVP

From Page 32

onship with a 5-1 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers in Game 7.

He launched a Series record-tying five homers, including shots in each of the final four games, and celebrated those Springer Dingers by hollering around the bases.

Many years ago, that type of trip would've been hard to believe. Impossible, really.

As a kid, Springer stuttered so severely that he frequently fell silent, unless he was around his family or close friends. Over time, he's improved so much that he graciously grants interviews, even on national television, and never seems to shy away from the spotlight. He even wore a live mic in center field during the All-Star Game in July.

Watch closely and you can see Springer, just for a moment, still begins to stumble over words sometimes. So he will calmly slow himself down, or pause for a second, before gathering himself and continuing on eloquently.

At 28, the All-Star center fielder has taken every chance he's gotten this postseason to talk about Camp SAY—that's the Stuttering Association for the Young.

Springer is a spokesman for the two-week summer camp that benefits kids and teens who stutter. He also runs a charity bowling event, raising money to help people attend the program.

"I hope there's somebody somewhere out there that is impacted and can learn to just go be who you are and not let any stage or any place stop you," he said last week.

On baseball's big stage, the Dodgers couldn't stop him.

Springer tied Reggie Jackson (1977) and Chase Utley (2009) for the most home runs in a Series. The UConn product became the first hitter to homer four games in a row during a single Series, and also set the mark with eight extra-base hits.

"This is a dream come true," he said.

Kanoa-1, MP United boost title bids

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United Football Club and Shirley's FC players collide as they fight for possession during the second half of their boys U14 division game in the 2017 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club-1 and MP United moved closer to their respective division titles after recording similar wins in the 2017 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday.

In the co-ed U12 division, Kanoa-1 defeated TanHoldings at the Hopwood Middle School Field, 5-2, while over at the Koblerville Elementary School Field for the boys U14 age group, MP United shut down Shirley's FC, 3-0.

With the victory, Kanoa-1 now has a 7-0-1 win-draw-loss record to lead MP United (6-1-1), TanHoldings (3-1-4), Matansa (4-0-4), Paire (2-0-6), and Kanoa-2 (1-0-7). Kanoa-1 has two games left and needs a sweep to seal the fall season crown. The division leader will face Paire—the team that handed Kanoa-1 its lone loss so far this season—in its penultimate match this Saturday before battling MP United in another important game on Nov. 11.

Kanoa-1 boosted its title bid in the co-ed U12 division after drawing two goals each from Andrew Sablan and Markus Toves during their duel against TanHoldings. John Mark Anastacio contributed one goal for Kanoa-1, while John Anthony Bergancia and Mark Joseph Roque scored for TanHoldings.

In other results in the division, MP United routed Kanoa-2, 11-4, while Matansa edged Paire, 5-4.

MP United eased past Kanoa-2 behind the six goals of Andrew Chung. Richard Castro and Kristoffer Pascual chipped in two goals each, while Cody Shimizu added one. Edison Kay Viana made a pair for Kanoa-2, while Leland Isaiah Deleon Guerrero and Rommel Cadag posted the two other goals for the losing squad.

In the boys U14 division, MP United kept its distance against Matansa as the win against Shirley's gave the former a 7-1-0 mark. Matansa is two wins behind MP United with its 5-1-2 slate.

Three different players scored in MP United's victory with Rintaro Miyawaki hitting the board first and Rohan Basnet and Richard Steele following suit. MP United will secure the division title this season with a win over Paire (0-0-8) this Saturday, while the former will play its last game on Nov. 11 against Kanoa (2-0-6).

In other results in the division, TanHoldings (4-2-2) nosed out Matansa, 2-1, to move to No. 3 in the team standings, while Kanoa outclassed Paire, 7-2.

Taka Borja and Oliver Fajardo delivered the goals for TanHoldings, while Maui Johnson registered the lone goal for Matansa. In the Kanoa-Paire tiff, Merrick Toves fired four goals in the former's easy win. Jhoey Noble chipped in two, while Luke Mersai tallied one. Blake Mister and Kaden Church scored for the winless Paire.

TanHoldings, Teen Ayuyus still perfect

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings and Teen Ayuyus kept their clean slates in Division A of the M-League after shutting down their respective opponents last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

The Teen Ayuyus, made of up of youth players in the CNMI national training pool, dominated Paire, 7-0, in the last game in the division to bag their third win in as many matches. Sunjoon Tenorio starred in the Teen Ayuyus' win after scoring a hattrick with his first two posted in a span of three minutes (56th and 59th minute) and the last one recorded in the 78th.

Joshua Abragan contributed a pair, hitting the board in the 73rd and 90th minute, while Louie Calayag gave the Teen Ayuyus their first goal in the eight minute. The Teen Ayuyus got a goal off Paire's error. With their seven goals against the winless Paire (0-1-3), the Teen Ayuyus have collected 14 early into the season to lead TanHoldings' eight.

TanHoldings' added two when it defeated Kanoa in the second game in Division A. TanHoldings matched MP United's 3-0-0 mark, while Kanoa fell to a 1-1-1 slate.

Ryan Relucio broke TanHoldings' long silence when he found his target in the 65th minute, while Joshua De Leon handed the team its second goal in the 85th.

In the first game in Division A, Sun Palace slipped past Okadaya, 3-2.

Junsik Kim knocked in a pair of goals for Sun Palace, including the go-ahead in the 49th minute. Kim's first goal came in the 19th minute, while Daniel Agulto opened things up for Sun Palace with his conversion in the fourth.

The victory was only Sun Palace's first, while the loss was Okadaya's third in four games. Dhiraj Chhetri scored for Okadaya in the seventh minute, while Kosuke Kimura delivered the other goal in the 39th minute to force a tie at halftime.

Meanwhile, in the lone Division B match at the Koblerville Elementary School Field, Matansa crushed the CNMI Women's National Team, 9-0.

Al-Amin Fnu registered a hat-trick to lead Matansa's lopsided win, while Kamrul Kamrul, Amzad Khan, and Daniel Jay Dueans contributed two goals each. Matansa is unscathed in three games, while the CNMI Women's National Team is winless after two matches.

Shirley's Football Club (0-0-1) and Korean Football Association Saipan are the two other teams entered in Division B. KFAS will have its season debut this Sunday when it takes on the CNMI Women's National Team at 2pm at the Koblerville pitch, while in the second game at 4pm, Matansa will meet Shirley's. In Division A, Sun Palace will duel Paire in the first match at 12pm, while the Teen Ayuyus collide with Kanoa in the second tiff at 2pm. TanHoldings and MP United will close out the tripleheader with their game at 4pm at the Hopwood pitch.

Cuki concentrates more on BJJ

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Fresh from his success in the 10th Copa de Marianas/Marianas Open Brazilian Jiu-jitsu Tournament, Trench Tech Gym owner Cuki Alvarez will keep his focus on Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

"I've been focusing mainly on [BJJ] with the gi (Kimono) in the last three years. I used to fight and train in [mixed martial arts] fighting since 2002, but I feel MMA is a young man's sport. Especially at the highest level," said Alvarez, who won his debut in the Copa de Marianas held last weekend at the Father Duenas Phoenix Center in Mangilao, Guam.

"It was my first time to join the Copa de Marianas/ Marianas Open. [Guam] has been hosting [Brazilian Jiu-jitsu] events for over 10 years now but never had a Masters division. And 10 years ago, I was already 36," said Alvarez during a break in his training at his Trench Tech Gym.

The Masters division is for BJJ practitioners 37 years old and up, and Alvarez immediately signed up after learning Copa organizers added a new age group. .

He said BJJ and grappling events are less abusive to a person's body. "I enjoy BJJ a lot more than MMA and I'm excited to join all other Masters tournaments being offered around the world."

"Since I'm getting a little older, BJJ is little abusive on the body. Don't get me wrong, BJJ is very competitive but without the strikes and other hits," added Alvarez with a smile.

Alvarez prevailed against Norbert Mendiola of Team Steel Athletics-Spike 22 via points, 6-4, in the gold medal match of the Purple belt absolute Gi division in the Guam tournament last weekend. He was unbeaten in the competition as he earlier stopped Rich Flores, also of Team Steel Athletics, by Samurai choke submission.

Though undefeated, Alvarez said his victories were not easy.

"The tournament was a lot tougher than I expected. Especially my two opponents—they were also gunning for the gold and none of the matches were easy. I had to work hard for every position, point, and submission. The Masters division was very competitive and aggressive because we definitely wanted to show all the young guys that we belong and age ain't nothing but a number," he added.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Cuki Alvarez, left, poses with fellow Copa de Marianas participant Kris Rios of Guam while waiting for his Masters class bout last weekend at the Father Duenas Phoenix Center in Mangilao.

Top seeds set dream finale

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Top seeds Peleliu and Brotherhood disposed of their respective rivals in the knockout semifinals last week to arrange their much-awaited title showdown in the 2017 Belau Men's Masters Softball League.

The best-of-three championship series will start at 11am this Sunday and the duel will be a test of endurance as Peleliu and Brotherhood will play all the matches on the same day.

Pennant champ Peleliu took the first finals berth despite failing to capitalize early on a tired S.A. Masters' side, grinding out a 23-17 win. The Masters played twice last Sunday, facing Karui first for the continuation of their rained-out quarterfinals match on Oct. 22.

The Masters used a nine-run seventh inning in completing a 14-4 decision against Karui. Homeruns by Jack Guerrero in the first, Mais Aguon in the sixth, and Jude Dickinson in the seventh brought the Masters to the semifinals. Mike Sablan also did his share on the mound as he held the usually explosive Taylor Germance of Karui to a 2-of-3 batting with a single and a double.

Then in the semis, Peleliu managed to eliminate the Masters, banking on a pair of seven-run innings in the fourth and fifth to advance to the finals.

Ross Kintaro led Peleliu's 25-hit parade as he was a single short of making the cycle and went 3-for-4. He led off the third with a solo homer to go with his double, triple, three runs, and three RBIs.

Mark Flores finished 4-for-5 with two doubles, four runs, and two RBIs, while Dominic Hideo went 2-for-4 with two runs and three RBIs, including a two-RBI single in the fourth. Dominic Remeliik, 3-for-5, added three runs and three RBIs, while Brel Kodep also homered in the fifth.

JON PEREZ

Brotherhood's John D. Diaz, left, pitches to a Peleliu player during their knockout match for the pennant in the 2017 Belau Men's Masters Softball League at the Dandan Softball Field. Brotherhood and Peleliu will collide in best-of-three title series this Sunday.

Brotherhood 20, Momma Charu 3

Pennant runners-up Brotherhood had an easier outing and only needed four innings to earn the right of facing Peleliu in the finals.

John D. Diaz pitched a complete game and held Momma Charu scoreless in the second and third. He limited their opponents to six hits while striking out two and giving up two walks.

Julian Camacho struck with a pair of doubles to go 3-for-3 at the plate and three runs in leading Brotherhood's 10-run explosion in the second inning. Joe Lizama also went 3-for-3, all singles, to go with his two runs and two RBIs.

Ken Kalen, who struck out in his first at bat, blasted two home runs and had five RBIs. Bill Aguon, Jerry Ayuyu, and Bill Camacho each homered with the former adding a double, two runs, and two RBIs.

Nizer Masayos led off with a triple for Momma Charu at the top of the first and later scored on a Lee Sibetang RBI single.

Momma Charu failed to score after that and only had a runner reaching home plate in the fourth. Leo Bobai walked, advanced to second on a Dominic Kuich single, and reached on another single by Ed Kapileo. Kuich scored Momma Charu's last run on a Ron Olopai single in the same inning.

IPI Masters blast Papa Bears

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Mel Sakisat pitched a complete game, including three scoreless innings, to lead the IPI Masters to a 25-3 demolition of the Papa Bears in the Masters division of the Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Sakisat limited the Papa Bears to five hits and was tagged with one earned run with no walks and six strikeouts.

Ralph Yumul, John Acosta, and Phil Celis provided the offensive punch for the Masters all game long.

Yumul went 4-for-5, all singles, while scoring four runs and three RBIs. Acosta also had four singles in his six times at the plate, and made three runs and three RBIs. Celis, 3-for-5, had a triple and two RBIs while touching home plate four times.

Benji Fitial scored two runs in the first and fifth inning for the Papa Bears, while Henry Casper added one more in the shortened game. Fitial doubled in the first, stole second, and was safe at home on a fielding error by Jeff Sablan. He again reached base on an error by the IPI Masters and rushed toward home on a single by Glen Camacho. Casper, meanwhile, walked and stole second base before scoring on a throwing error by catcher Robert Repeki.

The win by the Masters against the Papa Bears eased the pain of their 14-15 loss to last year's finalist Saisei last week.

Ray Renguul led Saisei's victory after going 3-for-5 with a double, two RBIs, and one run.

In other results, the Pirates squeezed out a 4-3 win over the Falcons in a pitching duel last Oct. 26 in the Under-25 league,

Frankie Lieto and J.J. Lifoifoi shared the duty on the mound for the Pirates with the latter closing out the contest by pitching a no-hitter for three innings with no runs, giving up two walks, and retiring six batters. Lieto started for the Pirates and allowed four unearned runs on three hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

The Pirates also won by default against the Blue Jays last Saturday, Oct. 28, while in the other U25 game last Oct. 24, the GSM Cubs defeated the Blue Jays, 3-1.

The GSM Cubs' Joe Lizama threw a one-hitter for six innings with no earned runs while fanning six and walking three. Dominic Yumul scored the Blue Jays' lone run against Lizama.

Games in both the Masters and Under-25 leagues have been on and off due to the unpredictable weather.

JON PEREZ

GSM Cubs pitcher A.J. Lizama, left, walks back to the mound after having a brief talk with team manager A.J. Murig in this file photo taken during their 10-inning game against the Pirates last Oct. 17 at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Green Minded survives Tropang Ridhors' rally

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Green Minded showed poise in the homestretch to eke out an 80-76 victory over Tropang Ridhors in the lone match played in the 2nd Ali'i Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Ivan Devero knocked in clutch baskets, while Leo Itaas made important free throws to help Green Minded thwart Tropang Ridhors' comeback bid. Devero's pair of baskets came after Tropang Ridhors moved within five, 68-73, while Itaas' charities sealed it for Green Minded, which improved its record to 5-3.

Tropang Ridhors dropped to a 7-4 mark, losing four of its last five games. It had to fight back in the fourth quarter after falling behind by twin digits at the end of the third, 51-62. Green Minded took the 11-point lead after drawing at least two field goals each from four players and it stretched its advantage to as much as 15 early in the fourth canto, 68-53.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Green Minded's Edwin Santos, left, takes off for a layup, while Tropang Ridhors' Keiji Yoshisawa looks on during the fourth quarter of their game in the IT&E-sponsored Ali'i Blue Haus caging last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

However, Green Minded lost the double-digit lead as Tropang Ridhors won the exchanges in the next five minutes, 15-5. John Paul Morales anchored Tropang Ridhors' rally, scoring 8 points, including back-to-back triples, while Keiji Yoshisawa capped the scoring spurt with a triple for his seventh point in that quarter alone.

Tropang Ridhors made the final push without Junar Guiab, who left the game after the third period. The squad was also without its top scorer Ken Viray. However, Tropang Ridhors failed to complete the come-from-behind win, as Devero stepped in to save the day for Green Minded.

Devero finished with a game-high 23 points, while Edwin Santos and J.R. Barrios also hit double figures with 17 and 14, respectively. Morales matched Devero's output, while Yoshisawa added 20.

Only the Green Minded-Tropang Ridhors tiff was played due to the malfunctioning scoreboard at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. The Black Mamba-Team Sawi game in the curtain-raiser will be rescheduled on a later date.

Green Minded 80 —Devero 23, Santos 17, Barrios 14, Itaas 9, Vergara 7, Armia 5, Dela Cruz 5.

Tropang Ridhors 76 — Morales 23, Yoshisawa 20, Guiab 14, Fernandez 7, Acosta 5.

Scoring by quarters: 19-16, 37-40, 62-51, 80-76.

Pacers hand Cavaliers fourth straight loss

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Top seeds set dream finale

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Astros win

1st World Series crown

By BEN WALKER
AP BASEBALL WRITER

LOS ANGELES —From laughingstock to lift off.

George Springer and the Houston Astros rocketed to the top of the baseball galaxy Wednesday night, winning the first World Series championship in franchise history by romping past the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-1 in Game 7.

Playing for a city still recovering from Hurricane Harvey, and wearing an H Strong logo on their jerseys, the Astros brought home the prize that had eluded them since they started out in 1962 as the Colt .45s.

"I always believed that we could make it," All-Star second baseman Jose Altuve said. "We did this for them."

For a Series that was shaping up as an October classic, Game 7 quickly became a November clunker as Houston scored five runs in the first two innings off an ineffective Yu Darvish. Hardly the excitement fans felt during the Cubs' 10-inning thriller in Cleveland last fall.

Well, except for everyone wearing bright orange.

"We're coming home a champion, Houston," Springer said after accepting the World Series MVP trophy named this year after Willie Mays for the first time.

Altuve, one of four carry-overs from a club that lost an embarrassing 111 times in 2013 after switching from the NL to the AL, and this collection of young stars silenced Dodger Stadium from the get-go.

Normally a starter, Charlie Morton finished up with four stellar innings of relief for the win.

"We held down a really tough lineup," Morton said. "For my teammates, for the city of Houston, it's just unbelievable."

Springer led off the evening with a double against Darvish, and soon it was 2-0.

Springer hit his fifth homer—tying the Series mark set by Reggie Jackson and matched by Chase Utley—when he connected for a record fourth game in a row,

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AP

Houston Astros catcher Brian McCann leaps in the arms of starting pitcher Charlie Morton after Game 7 of baseball's World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in Los Angeles.

Springer takes World Series MVP

By RONALD BLUM
AP BASEBALL WRITER

LOS ANGELES—George Springer hit so many clutch home runs, he was a clear pick for World Series MVP.

He often was the most vocal person, too—and that might be the most remarkable part of his story.

The Houston leadoff man hammered his way to the award, homering and doubling Wednesday night to boost the Astros to their first champi-

See MVP on Page 29

Houston Astros' George Springer, right, hits a double off Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Yu Darvish of Japan during the first inning of Game 7 of baseball's World Series Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in Los Angeles.

AP

Dodgers' title drought reaches 30 years

By BEN WALKER
AP BASEBALL WRITER

LOS ANGELES—Even Clayton Kershaw couldn't save the Dodgers in Game 7 of the World Series.

The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner tossed four scoreless innings of relief when starter Yu Darvish fell into a five-run hole after 1 2/3 innings Wednesday night.

But the Dodgers' offense never put it together. Los Angeles mustered just six hits, hit into a double play and stranded 10 runners in a 5-1 loss to Houston that extended its championship drought to 30 years.

It was a clunker of an ending for baseball's best team during the regular season.

The Dodgers won 104 games, boasted an NL-leading six All-Stars and won the NL West for the fifth consecutive year. They won 43 of 50 games over a two-month stretch from June to early August, the best 50-game run

See DODGERS' on Page 29

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig reacts after flying out during the third inning of Game 7 of baseball's World Series against the Houston Astros Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in Los Angeles.